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Natural  
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OCT 8 - 2004

# Washington Water Supply Outlook Report May 1, 2004



# Water Supply Outlook Reports and Federal - State – Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

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## *How forecasts are made*

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snow courses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above, and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below, this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water (for example, threat of flooding), they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. (Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount.) By using the exceedance probability information, users can easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

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# Washington Water Supply Outlook

May 2004

## General Outlook

Washington continued to experience warm and dry conditions throughout the month of April. These conditions have expedited normal snowmelt by as much as two months at mid elevations and a month at higher locations. Approximately 37% of the 59 SNOTEL sites had melted out by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Normally only a hand full of the very lowest elevation sites would be without snow cover on that date. Some relief may be forth coming during the month of May, according to weather forecast agencies, however it may be too little too late to recover from the past two months. Summer weather forecasts are also calling for the possibility of continued warm and dry conditions. Weekly drought monitor and text summary can be viewed at: <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/water/drought/wdr.pl>

## Snowpack

The May 1 statewide SNOTEL readings dropped still further from last month to 63% of average. The Omak Creek Basin snow surveys reported the lowest readings at 29% of average. Readings in the Cowlitz River Basin reported the highest at 90% of average. Westside averages from SNOTEL, and May 1 snow surveys, included the North Puget Sound river basins with 50% of average, the Central Puget river basins with 52%, and the Lewis-Cowlitz basins with 89% of average. Snowpack along the east slopes of the Cascade Mountains included the Yakima area with 56% and the Wenatchee area with 62%. Snowpack in the Spokane River Basin was at 65% and the Walla Walla River Basin had 69% of average. Maximum snow cover in Washington was at Paradise Park SNOTEL near Mt. Rainer, with water content of 73.1 inches. This site would normally have 74.8 inches of water content on May 1. Last year at this time Paradise Park had 60.1 inches of snow water. The highest average in the state was Lynn Lake snow course in the Green River Basin with 123% of average.

BASIN	PERCENT OF LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Spokane .....	113 .....	65
Newman Lake .....	81.....	38
Pend Oreille .....	68.....	61
Okanogan .....	76.....	56
Methow .....	73.....	55
Similkameen .....	60.....	32
Wenatchee .....	64.....	46
Chelan .....	64.....	53
Stemilt - Colockum .....	132.....	86
Upper Yakima .....	72.....	45
Lower Yakima .....	78.....	66
Ahtanum Creek .....	53.....	48
Walla Walla .....	87.....	69
Lower Snake .....	79.....	73
Cowlitz .....	111.....	90
Lewis .....	120.....	87
White .....	76.....	74
Green .....	110.....	63
Cedar .....	53.....	30
Snoqualmie .....	85.....	54
Skykomish .....	87.....	58
Skagit .....	74.....	56
Baker .....	57.....	50
Nooksack .....	97.....	45
Olympic Peninsula .....	73.....	61

## Precipitation

During the month of April, the National Weather Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service climate stations reported below average precipitation totals throughout Washington river basins. The highest percent of average in the state was at the Walla Walla Airport which reported 174% of average for a total of 2.56 inches. The average for this site is 1.47 inches for April. (High precipitation events at isolated stations most likely indicate thunder storm activity.) The wettest spot in the state was reported at Swift Creek SNOTEL in the Lewis River with an April accumulation of 7.80 inches and a total of 117.5 inches for the water-year. Basin averages for the water year dropped across the state, due to a very dry April, but mostly remain near to slightly below average.

RIVER BASIN	APRIL PERCENT OF AVERAGE	WATER YEAR PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Spokane .....	60.....	85
Colville-Pend Oreille .....	63.....	82
Okanogan-Methow .....	56 .....	91
Wenatchee-Chelan .....	34 .....	88
Upper Yakima .....	44.....	92
Lower Yakima .....	46 .....	87
Walla Walla .....	87.....	94
Lower Snake .....	67 .....	93
Cowlitz-Lewis .....	43 .....	81
White-Green-Puyallup .....	39 .....	86
Central Puget Sound .....	35 .....	92
North Puget Sound .....	26 .....	99
Olympic Peninsula .....	51 .....	104

## Reservoir

Seasonal reservoir levels in Washington vary greatly due to specific watershed management practices required in preparation for irrigation season, fisheries management, power generation and flood control. Reservoir storage in the Upper Yakima Basin was 566,600-acre feet, 91% of average and 181,000-acre feet, 107% of average for Rimrock and Bumping Lakes. Storage at the Okanogan reservoirs was 67% of average for May 1. The power generation reservoirs included the following: Coeur d'Alene Lake, 156,500 acre feet, 63% of average and 66% of capacity; Chelan Lake, 341,800-acre feet, 129% of average and 51% of capacity; and the Skagit River reservoirs at 122% of average and 65% of capacity.

BASIN	PERCENT OF CAPACITY	CURRENT STORAGE AS PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Spokane .....	66 .....	63
Colville-Pend Oreille .....	N/A.....	N/A
Okanogan-Methow .....	54 .....	67
Wenatchee-Chelan .....	51 .....	129
Upper Yakima .....	68 .....	91
Lower Yakima .....	78 .....	107
North Puget Sound .....	65 .....	122



## Streamflow

May forecasts for May-September flows vary from 85% of average for Lewis River at Ariel to 37% of average for Salmon Creek near Conconully. May-September forecasts for some Western Washington streams include the Cedar River near Cedar Falls, 73%; Green River, 84%; and Skagit River, 77%. Some Eastern Washington streams include the Yakima River near Parker, 63%; Wenatchee River at Plain, 64%; and Spokane River near Post Falls, 62%. Volumetric forecasts are developed using current, historic and average snowpack, precipitation and streamflow data collected and coordinated by organizations cooperating with NRCS.

Statewide April streamflows varied from below to much above average. Many of the reported streamflow measurements are from regulated reservoir systems, therefore streamflow readings may not be indicative of actual peak snowmelt runoff. Non-regulated streams such as the Methow River at Peteros, show true flows from snowmelt caused by the above average temperatures during April. The Similkameen River near Nighthawk had the highest reported flows with 194% of average. The Cowlitz River at Castle Rock with 67% of average was the lowest in the state.

### BASIN

### PERCENT OF AVERAGE MOST PROBABLE FORECAST (50 PERCENT CHANCE OF EXCEEDENCE)

Spokane .....	53-66
Colville-Pend Oreille .....	46-86
Okanogan-Methow .....	37-62
Wenatchee-Chelan .....	49-80
Upper Yakima .....	42-65
Lower Yakima .....	63-72
Walla Walla .....	63-71
Lower Snake .....	58-67
Cowlitz-Lewis .....	70-85
White-Green-Puyallup .....	84-86
Central Puget Sound .....	67-80
North Puget Sound .....	76-84
Olympic Peninsula .....	77-83

### STREAM

### PERCENT OF AVERAGE APRIL STREAMFLOWS

Pend Oreille Below Box Canyon .....	112
Kettle at Laurier .....	126
Columbia at Birchbank .....	130
Spokane at Long Lake .....	84
Similkameen at Nighthawk .....	194
Okanogan at Tonasket .....	131
Methow at Peteros .....	162
Chelan at Chelan .....	136
Wenatchee at Pashastin .....	133
Yakima at Cle Elum .....	114
Yakima at Parker .....	125
Naches at Naches .....	121
Grande Ronde at Troy .....	87
Snake below Lower Granite Dam .....	73
SF Walla Walla near Milton Freewater .....	149
Columbia River at The Dalles .....	97
Lewis at Ariel .....	72
Cowlitz below Mayfield Dam .....	79
Skagit at Concrete .....	98

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



# BASIN SUMMARY OF SNOW COURSE DATA

MAY 2004

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1971-00
ALPINE MEADOWS SNTL	3500	5/01/04	78	38.9	26.4	45.8
AMBROSE	6480	4/30/04	13	4.3	14.1	11.1
ASHLEY DIVIDE	4820	4/27/04	0	.0	.0	1.1
BADGER PASS SNOTEL	6900	5/01/04	53	24.9	27.4	36.2
BAREE CREEK	5500	4/26/04	62	30.8	32.8	40.3
BAREE MIDWAY	4600	4/26/04	47	22.6	22.8	27.4
BAREE TRAIL	3800	4/26/04	0	.0	.0	1.3
BARKER LAKES SNOTEL	8250	5/01/04	36	12.7	17.7	16.2
BARNES CREEK CAN.	5320	4/30/04	30	13.3	20.9	19.7
BASIN CREEK SNOTEL	7180	5/01/04	27	9.0	9.3	10.0
BASSOO PEAK	5150	5/04/04	0	.0	.0	3.2
BEAVER CREEK TRAIL	2200	4/28/04	0	.0	.0	4.4
BEAVER PASS	3680	4/28/04	33	16.0	17.2	27.2
BEAVER PASS SNOTEL	3680	5/01/04	68	25.9	23.7	--
BERNE-MILL CREEK (d)	3170	4/29/04	41	17.9	18.2	22.5
BIG CREEK	6750	4/30/04	69	33.6	--	48.0
BIG WHITE MTN CAN.	5510	5/02/04	31	13.2	17.8	19.4
BLACK MOUNTAIN	7750	4/27/04	32	13.0	17.3	16.9
BLACK PINE SNOTEL	7100	5/01/04	1	.9	11.2	11.0
BLACKWALL PEAK CAN.	6370	5/01/04	---	23.0	26.9	34.9
BLEWETT PASS#2SNOTEL	4270	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	5.0
BLUE LAKE	5900	4/27/04	27	11.6	14.0	22.4
BRENDA MINE CAN.	4450	5/01/04	---	.0	4.6	9.3
BROOKMERE CAN.	3000	4/29/04	4	1.3	.0	4.0
BROWN TOP AM	6000	4/28/04	64	28.3	55.2	62.1
BRUSH CREEK TIMBER	5000	4/27/04	0	.0	.0	3.6
BULL MOUNTAIN	6600	4/29/04	0	.0	.0	2.6
BUMPING LAKE (NEW)	3400	4/28/04	0	.0	2.3	10.4
BUMPING RIDGE SNOTEL	4600	5/01/04	38	17.1	20.5	27.5
BUNCHGRASS MDWSNOTEL	5000	5/01/04	---	16.4	30.1	28.6
BURNT MOUNTAIN PIL	4200	5/01/04	3	2.1	9.5	--
CARMI CAN.	4100	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	1.1
CHESSMAN RESERVOIR	6200	4/27/04	0	.0	.0	1.7
CHICKEN CREEK	4060	4/27/04	10	4.3	5.2	5.4
CHIWAIKUM G.S.	2500	4/29/04	0	.0	.0	1.7
COMBINATION SNOTEL	5600	5/01/04	0	.0	.1	1.2
COPPER BOTTOM SNOTEL	5200	5/01/04	0	.0	4.9	4.5
COPPER MOUNTAIN	7700	4/25/04	19	6.6	11.0	10.0
CORRAL PASS SNOTEL	6000	5/01/04	---	34.5	34.9	35.3
COTTONWOOD CREEK	6400	4/27/04	15	6.1	7.7	7.3
COUGAR MTN. SNOTEL	3200	5/01/04	0	.0	1.1	11.0
COX VALLEY	4500	4/30/04	53	26.6	28.0	37.1
COYOTE HILL	4200	4/29/04	0	.0	.0	2.6
DALY CREEK SNOTEL	5780	5/01/04	0	.0	8.9	5.3
DEER PARK	5200	5/02/04	0	.0	12.0	15.2
DEVILS PARK	5900	4/28/04	94	40.0	38.6	44.7
DISCOVERY BASIN	7050	4/26/04	13	5.0	13.4	9.4
DIX HILL	6400	5/02/04	0	.0	1.5	3.8
DOMMERIE FLATS	2200	4/28/04	0	.0	.0	--
DUNGENESS SNOTEL	4100	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	--
EAST FORK R.S.	5400	4/29/04	0	.0	.0	.7
ELBOW LAKE SNOTEL	3200	5/01/04	27	14.6	15.5	32.5
EMERY CREEK SNOTEL	4350	5/01/04	0	.0	5.9	7.4
ENDERBY CAN.	5800	4/30/04	74	32.7	39.8	43.5
ESPERON CK. UP CAN.	5050	4/25/04	35	13.8	10.8	15.4
FARRON CAN.	4000	4/26/04	10	4.2	3.4	8.1
FATTY CREEK	5500	4/30/04	35	14.4	18.6	23.4
FISH CREEK	8000	5/01/04	---	11.0E	13.2	11.5
FISH LAKE	3370	4/28/04	18	9.6	14.9	23.1
FISH LAKE SNOTEL	3370	5/01/04	30	13.1	15.3	28.8
FLATTOP MTN SNOTEL	6300	5/01/04	85	37.2	43.1	46.7
FLEECER RIDGE	7500	4/29/04	2	.6	9.1	8.7
FOURTH OF JULY SUM	3200	4/29/04	0	.0	--	.3
FREEZEOUT CK. TRAIL	3500	4/29/04	1	.4	1.9	6.4
FROHNER MDWS SNOTEL	6480	5/01/04	7	2.5	7.2	6.5
GRASS MOUNTAIN #2	2900	4/28/04	0	.0	.0	--
GRAVE CRK SNOTEL	4300	5/01/04	2	.8	9.4	7.0
GRAYSTOKE LAKE CAN.	5500	4/28/04	35	11.3	11.5	16.2
GREEN LAKE SNOTEL	6000	5/01/04	42	17.1	20.2	24.6
GREYBACK RES CAN.	4700	4/29/04	10	3.1	4.1	7.0
GRIFFIN CR DIVIDE	5150	5/04/04	0	.0	.0	4.9
GROUSE CAMP SNOTEL	5380	5/01/04	9	3.3	15.9	11.1
HAMILTON HILL CAN.	4550	5/01/04	2	.6	6.6	10.6
HAND CREEK SNOTEL	5030	5/01/04	0	.0	1.7	6.8
HARTS PASS SNOTEL	6500	5/01/04	58	28.7	36.3	47.7
HELL ROARING DIVIDE	5770	4/27/04	52	24.0	22.3	29.0
HERRIG JUNCTION	4850	4/27/04	35	17.0	22.0	22.9
HIGH RIDGE SNOTEL	4980	5/01/04	---	11.4	11.4	15.9
HOLBROOK	4530	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	1.2
HOODOO BASIN SNOTEL	6050	5/01/04	70	31.2	40.0	45.7
HUCKLEBERRY SNOTEL	2000	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	--
HUMBOLDT GLCH SNOTEL	4250	5/01/04	---	.0	.0	5.5
HURRICANE	4500	5/01/04	---	11.0E	12.5	17.9
INTERGAARD	6450	4/25/04	0	.0	6.6	6.1
ISINTOK LAKE CAN.	5100	4/28/04	4	1.3	2.3	5.4
JUNE LAKE SNOTEL	3200	5/01/04	53	22.7	15.3	29.6
KIT CARSON PASTURE	4950	4/29/04	0	.0	--	--
KLESILKWA CAN.	3450	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	4.8

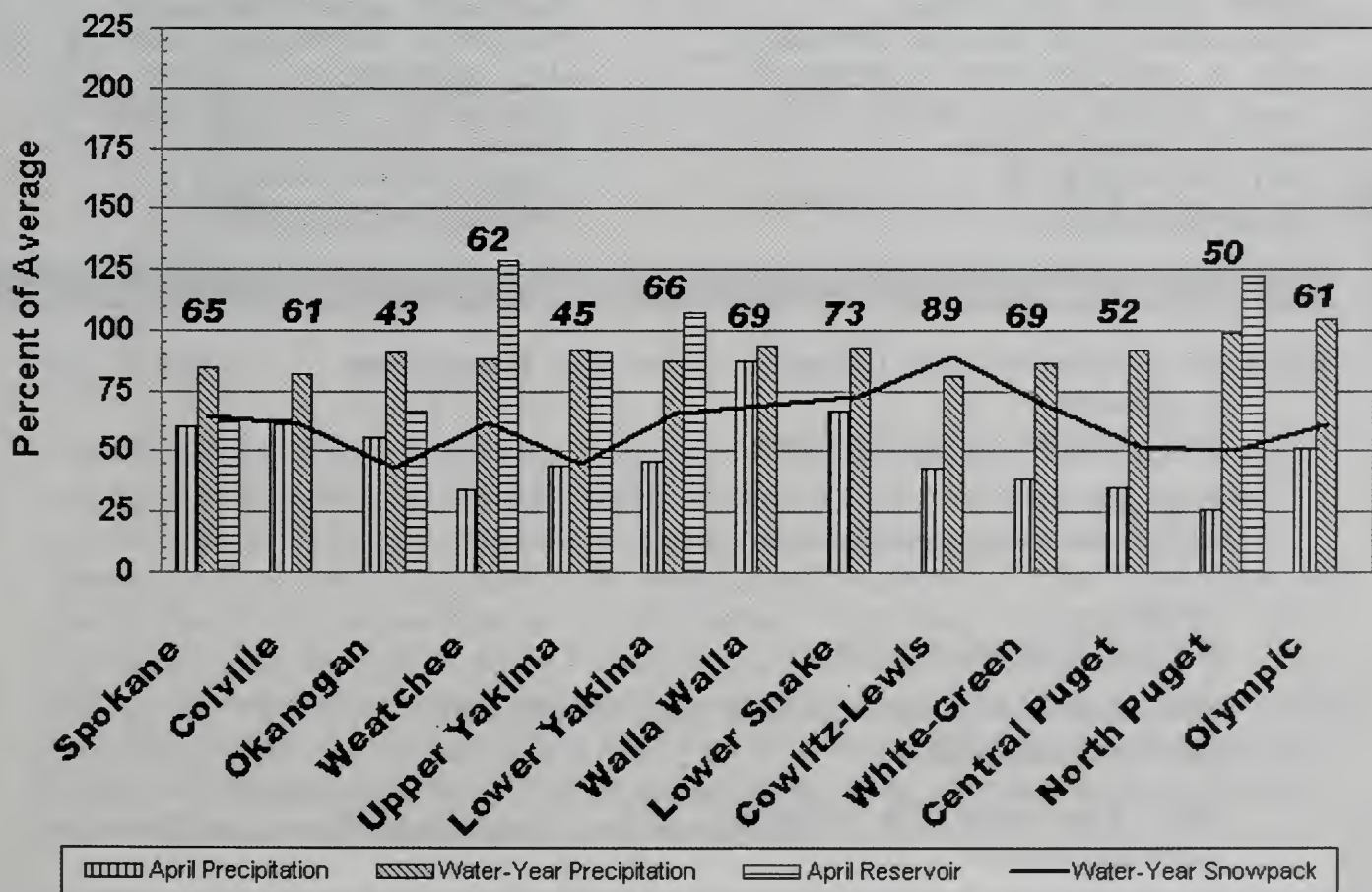
SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1971-00
KRAFT CREEK SNOTEL	4750	5/01/04	0	.0	2.4	5.2
LESTER CREEK	3100	4/28/04	30	13.5	.0	16.6
LIGHTNING LAKE CAN.	3700	5/01/04	14	5.2	5.8	9.9
LOGAN CREEK	4300	4/27/04	0	.0	.0	1.7
LOLO PASS SNOTEL	5240	5/01/04	28	12.9	26.5	24.5
LONE PINE SNOTEL	3800	5/01/04	---	36.1	27.2	34.2
LOOKOUT SNOTEL	5140	5/01/04	42	19.7	17.7	27.2
LOST HORSE MTN CAN.	6300	5/01/04	24	7.3	7.6	9.7
LOST HORSE SNOTEL	5000	5/01/04	0	.0	12.0	10.7
LOST LAKE SNOTEL	6110	5/01/04	---	38.6	43.9	59.7
LOWER SANDS CREEK #2	3120	4/29/04	36	16.3	.0	15.8
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 3	5450	4/30/04	0	.0	.0	1.7
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 4	4650	4/30/04	0	.0	.0	.1
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 6	4040	4/30/04	0	.0	.0	.0
LUBRECHT HYDROPLOT	4200	4/30/04	0	.0	.0	.1
LUBRECHT SNOTEL	4680	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	.5
LYMAN LAKE SNOTEL	5900	5/01/04	---	33.9	60.2	67.2
LYNN LAKE	4000	4/28/04	41	17.8	16.5	14.5
MARIAS PASS	5250	4/29/04	7	2.9	5.8	12.5
MEADOWS CABIN	1900	4/29/04	0	.0	.0	1.1
MEADOWS PASS SNOTEL	3240	5/01/04	1	.0	7.5	10.8
MERRITT	2140	4/29/04	0	.0	.0	4.0
M F NOOKSACK SNOTEL	4980	5/01/04	119	67.5	61.3	--
MICA CREEK SNOTEL	4750	5/01/04	16	8.4	8.8	15.3
MINERAL CREEK	4000	5/01/04	0	.0	7.8	9.6
MINERS RIDGE SNOTEL	6200	5/01/04	---	33.3	44.5	56.9
MISSEZULA MTN CAN.	5080	4/28/04	1	.2	1.5	5.5
MISSION CREEK CAN.	5840	5/01/04	---	20.2	20.1	21.3
MONASHEE PASS CAN.	4500	4/30/04	---	.1	11.3	11.4
MORRISSEY RIDGE CAN.	6100	5/01/04	---	15.4	29.5	27.2
MORSE LAKE SNOTEL	5400	5/01/04	---	34.2	55.8	57.0
MOSES MTN SNOTEL	4800	5/01/04	7	3.1	12.6	10.9
MOSQUITO RDG SNOTEL	5200	5/01/04	---	26.9	25.8	32.2
MOULTON RESERVOIR	6850	5/01/04	0	.0	5.5	3.5
MOUNT CRAG SNOTEL	4050	5/01/04	48	22.3	20.9	27.0
MT. KOBAY CAN.	5500	5/01/04	23	8.2	13.5	12.0
MOWICH SNOTEL	3150	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	--
MOUNT GARDNER SNOTEL	2860	5/01/04	---	.0	.0	4.8
N.P. ELK CR SNOTEL	6250	5/01/04	6	2.2	10.3	8.0
NEVADA RIDGE SNOTEL	7020	5/01/04	21	8.9	15.8	14.4
NEW HOZOMEEN LAKE	2800	4/28/04	0	.0	.0	3.8
NEZ PERCE CMP SNOTEL	5650	5/01/04	10	4.6	14.7	10.8
NEZ PERCE PASS	6570	4/29/04	15	5.5	17.0	14.2
NOISY BASIN SNOTEL	6040	5/01/04	80	34.2	37.0	43.0
NORTH FORK JOCKO	6330	4/30/04	56	27.0	34.4	--
OLALLIE MDWS SNOTEL	3960	5/01/04	68	34.0E	39.2	55.1
OLALLIE MEADOWS	3630	5/03/04	10	4.9	26.0	36.9
OPEHIR PARK	7150	5/02/04	13	5.0	15.3	16.0
PARADISE PARK SNOTEL	5500	5/01/04	---	73.1	60.1	74.0
PARK CK RIDGE SNOTEL	4600	5/01/04	34	19.0	32.4	39.8
PETERSON MDW SNOTEL	7200	5/01/04	22	7.6	15.1	11.0
PIGTAIL PEAK SNOTEL	5900	5/01/04	99	54.3	53.0	56.5
PIKE CREEK SNOTEL	5930	5/01/04	26	11.0	17.3	25.9
PIPESTONE PASS	7200	4/25/04	2	.7	1.9	4.0
POPE RIDGE SNOTEL	3540	5/01/04	0	.0	7.3	7.0
POSTILL LAKE CAN.	4200	5/01/04	7	2.8	4.2	5.3
POTATO HILL SNOTEL	4500	5/01/04	---	15.3	20.8	18.9
QUARTZ PEAK SNOTEL	4700	5/01/04	16	5.7	7.0	14.9
RAGGED RIDGE	3330	4/28/04	0	.0	.0	--
RAINY PASS SNOTEL	4780	5/01/04	51	23.6	34.2	43.2
REX RIVER SNOTEL	1900	5/01/04	12	5.7	11.9	19.0
ROCKER PEAK SNOTEL	8000	5/01/04	42	14.5	17.5	16.6
ROUND TOP MTN	4020	4/28/04	0	.0	.0	--
SADDLE MTN SNOTEL	7900	5/01/04	47	19.5	28.9	26.5
SALMON MDWS SNOTEL	4500	5/01/04	0	.0	1.3	3.9
SASSE RIDGE SNOTEL	4200	5/01/04	44	18.9	13.2	32.3
SAVAGE PASS SNOTEL	6170	5/01/04	48	14.8	27.1	25.2
SAWMILL RIDGE	4700	4/28/04	33	14.9	20.8	32.8
SENTINEL BT SNOTEL	4920	5/01/04	0	.0	--	--
SHEEP CANYON SNOTEL	4050	5/01/04	---	27.1	16.0	32.0
SHERWIN SNOTEL	3200	5/01/04	---	.0	.0	3.3
SILVER STAR MTN CAN.	5600	4/30/04	50	22.2	26.2	30.1
SKALKAH SNOTEL	7260	5/01/04	42	17.6	27.2	25.4
SKITWISH RIDGE	5110	4/29/04	50	23.8	15.3	25.8
SKOOKUM CREEK SNOTEL	3920	5/01/04	1	.4	4.5	14.6
SLIDE ROCK MOUNTAIN	7100	4/25/04	22	9.6	15.5	15.7
SOURDOUGH GULCH SNTL	4000	5/01/04	0	.0	.0	--
SPENCER MDW SNOTEL	3400	5/01/04	---	14.8	11.4	21.8
SPIRIT LAKE SNOTEL	3100	5/01/04	---	.0	.0	--
SPOTTED BEAR MTN.	7000	4/27/04	0	.0	4.4	7.6
SPRUCE SPRINGS SNTL	5700	5/01/04	0	.0	4.8	--
STAHL PEAK SNOTEL	6030	5/01/04	69	30.0	36.1	37.1
STAMPEDE PASS SNOTEL	3860	5/01/04	53	27.5	28.7	42.7
STEMPLE PASS	6600	4/27/04	9	3.2	5.4	9.3
STEVENS PASS SNOTEL	4070	5/01/04	37	14.5	25.8	35.2
STEVENS PASS SAND SD	3700	4/29/04	23	9.8	20.6	27.5
STORM LAKE	7780	4/26/04	27	10.0	15.7	14.3
STRYKER BASIN	6180	4/27/04	56	26.6	30.7	32.6



SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1971-00
SUMMERLAND RES CAN.	4200	4/28/04	1	.1	.0	5.1
SUNSET SNOTEL	5540	5/01/04	---	9.8	13.6	28.7
SURPRISE LKS SNOTEL	4250	5/01/04	---	36.8	38.1	41.8
SWAMP CREEK SNOTEL	4000	5/01/04	0	.0	3.4	--
TEN MILE LOWER	6600	4/27/04	0	.0	1.7	4.5
TEN MILE MIDDLE	6800	4/27/04	20	6.3	9.4	11.2
THUNDER BASIN SNOTEL	4200	5/01/04	---	13.4	25.7	27.4
THUNDER BASIN	4200	5/01/04	---	12.0E	18.0	21.2
THOMPSON CREEK	2500	4/28/04	0	.0	.0	--
TINKHAM CREEK SNOTEL	3000	5/01/04	---	10.7	11.6	20.0
TOUCHET SNOTEL	5530	5/01/04	41	17.7	22.0	26.2
TRINKUS LAKE	6100	4/27/04	60	31.0	32.4	40.8
TROUGH #2 SNOTEL	5310	5/01/04	0	.0	4.2	4.3
TRUMAN CREEK	4060	4/27/04	0	.0	.0	.1
TUNNEL AVENUE	2450	4/29/04	0	.0	2.2	12.0

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1971-00
TV MOUNTAIN	6800	4/30/04	24	9.0	14.3	17.4
TWELVEMILE SNOTEL	5600	5/01/04	0	.0	6.8	8.8
TWIN CAMP	4100	4/28/04	26	11.4	12.5	20.3
TWIN CREEKS	3580	4/27/04	0	.0	.0	1.7
TWIN LAKES SNOTEL	6400	5/01/04	53	28.6	41.5	38.5
UPPER HOLLAND LAKE	6200	4/27/04	55	26.8	33.8	33.5
UPPER WHEELER SNOTEL	4400	5/01/04	12	5.4	4.1	6.3
VASEUX CREEK CAN.	4250	4/29/04	0	.0	.0	2.3
WARM SPRINGS SNOTEL	7800	5/01/04	52	20.7	28.0	23.7
WATSON LAKES AM	4500	5/01/04	---	32.0E	56.0	64.0
WATERHOLE SNOTEL	5000	5/01/04	62	20.2	36.5	--
WEASEL DIVIDE	5450	4/29/04	44	21.7	25.8	32.7
WELLS CREEK SNOTEL	4200	5/01/04	47	21.3	21.7	--
WHITE PASS ES SNOTEL	4500	5/01/04	33	13.0	15.2	21.4
WHITE ROCKS MTN CAN.	7200	4/30/04	35	14.8	13.0	21.0

**May 1, 2004 -**  
**Snowpack, Precipitation and Reservoir**  
**Conditions at a Glance**  
 (Water Year = October 1, 2003 - Current Date)





Natural Resources Conservation Service

Washington State  
Snow, Water and Climate Services

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**Helpful Internet Addresses**

**NRCS Snow Survey and Climate Services Homepages**

Washington:

<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/snow>

Oregon:

<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/snow>

Idaho:

<http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov/snow>

National Water and Climate Center (NWCC):

<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

NWCC Anonymous FTP Server:

<ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

**USDA-NRCS Agency Homepages**

Washington:

<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/nrcs>

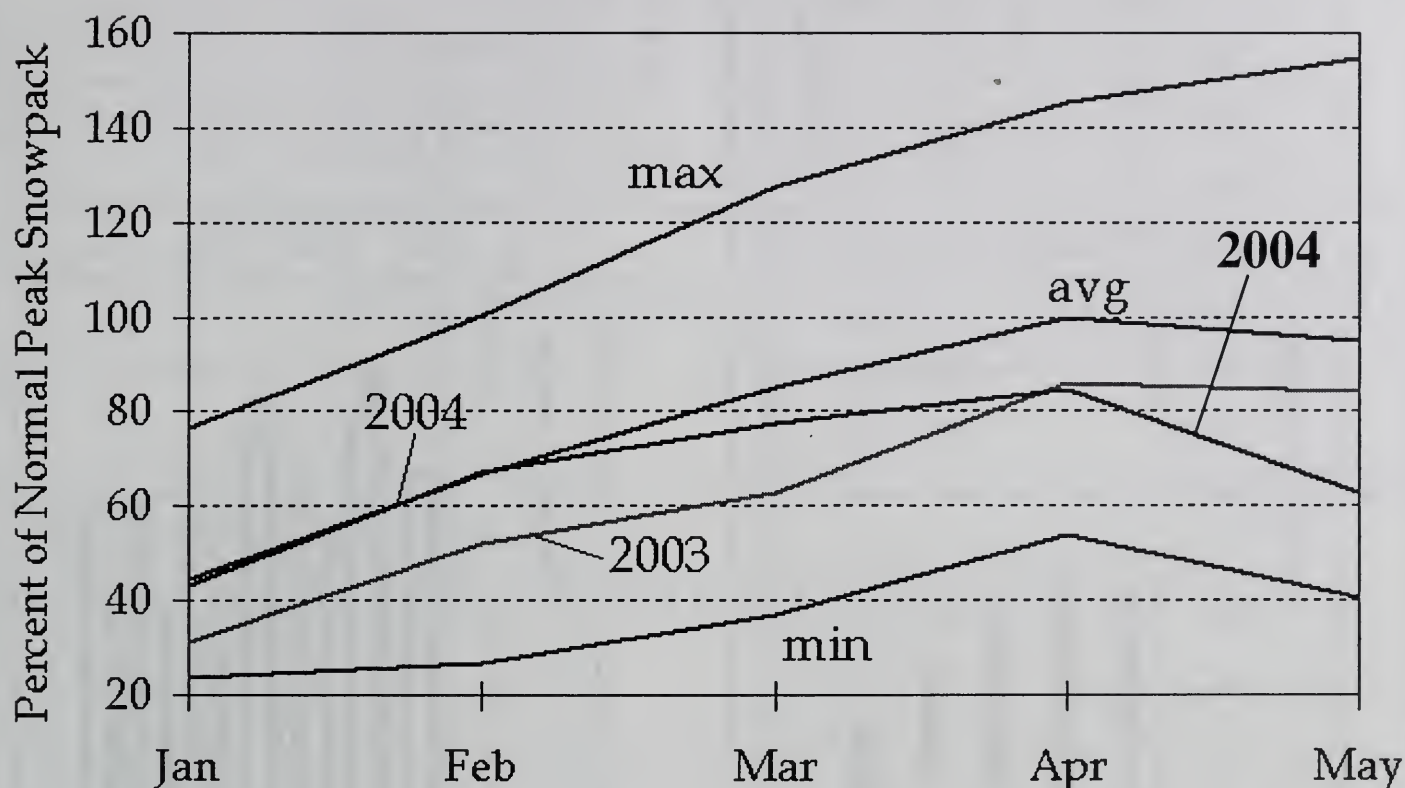
NRCS National:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>



# Columbia Basin Snowpack Summary

## Columbia above The Dalles

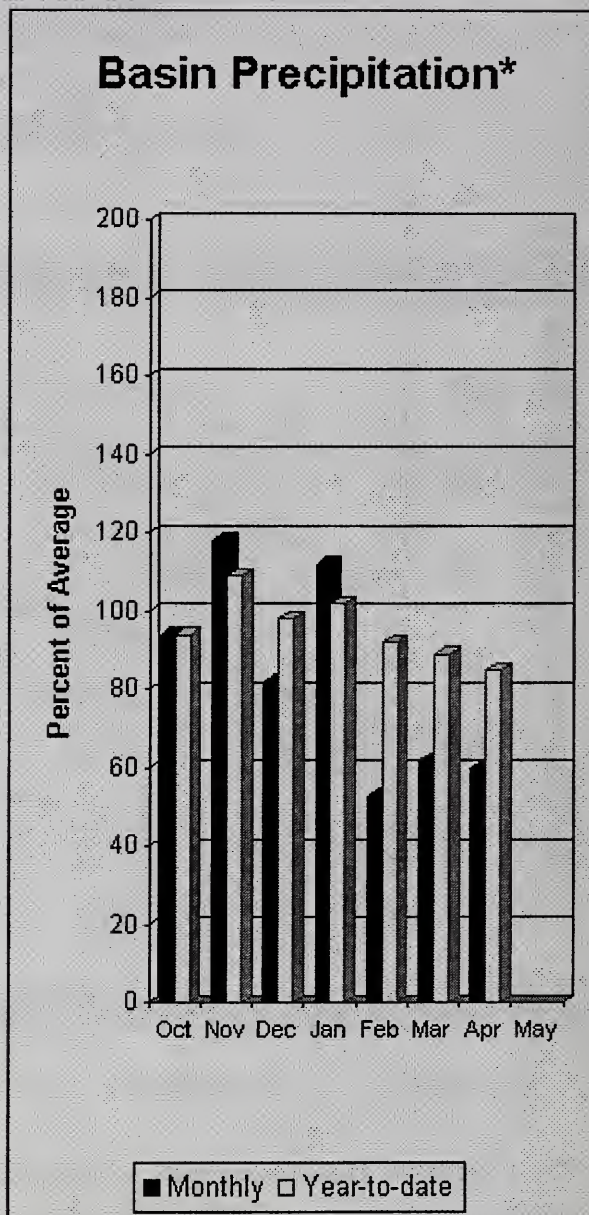
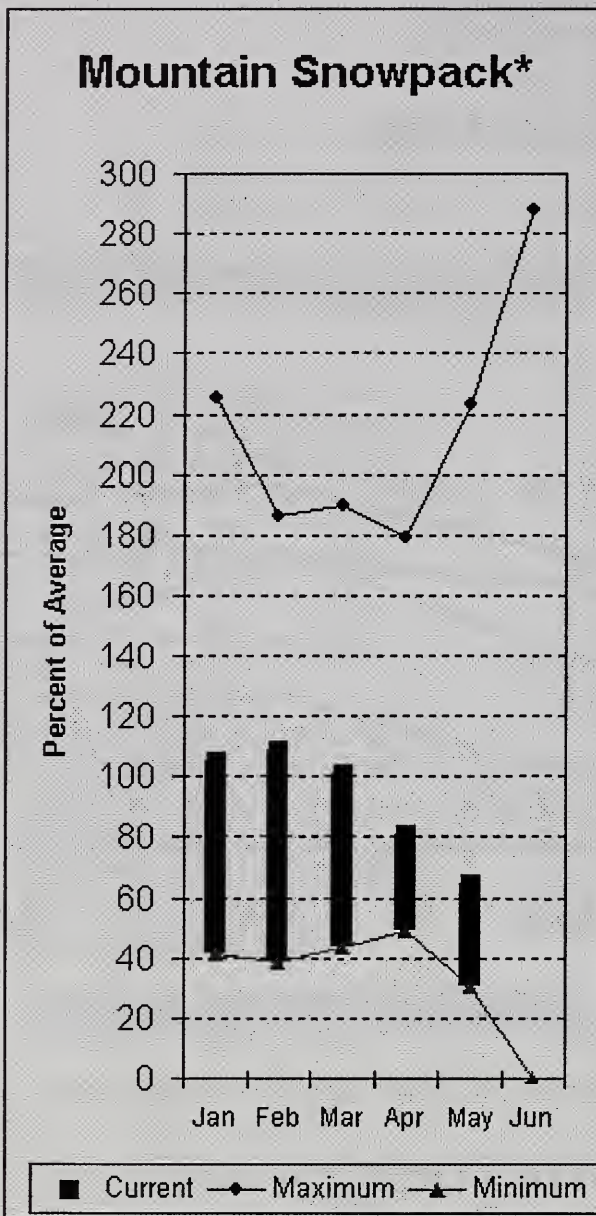


May 5, 2004

The Columbia Basin snowpack was 66 percent of average on May 1! This compares to 85 percent of average on April 1 and 89 percent of last year. The overall snowpack is at 63 percent of the average peak accumulation, compared to 84 percent last year. Hot and dry characterizes the weather pattern we have been in over the last two months. Most of the basin has received very little precipitation during March and April. And to top that off, snowmelt started early over much of the basin; a result of much above normal temperatures. As a result, much of the mountain snowpack declined in record proportions. The Snake has been especially hard hit by the hot, dry weather. While there have been some modest rises in the streamflow levels, most streams and rivers are below median levels. With poor remaining snowpacks, expected Spring and Summer runoff could be very low.

Not a basin was spared from the onslaught of hot and dry weather. The basin snowpack above Castlegar declined from 87 percent to 71 percent of average. The basin snowpack above Grand Coulee declined from 85 percent to 70 percent of average. And worst of all... the Snake snowpack plunged from 84 percent of average on April 1 to 60 percent of average on May 1.

# Spokane River Basin



\*Based on selected stations

The May 1 forecasts for summer runoff within the Spokane River Basin are 62% of average near Post Falls and 66% at Long Lake. The Chamokane River near Long Lake forecasted to have 53% of average flows for the May-August period. The forecast is based on a basin snowpack that is 65% of average and precipitation that is 85% of average for the water year. Precipitation for April was much below normal at 60% of average. Streamflow on the Spokane River at Long Lake was 84% of average for April. May 1 storage in Coeur d'Alene Lake was 156,500-acre feet, 63% of average and 66% of capacity. Snowpack at Quartz Peak SNOTEL site was 38% of average with 5.7 inches of water content. Temperatures in the Spokane basin were 4 degree above average for the past 28 days and 1 degree above normal for the water year.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



## SPOKANE RIVER BASIN Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

		<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Chance Of Exceeding *						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
=====								
SPOKANE near Post Falls (2)	MAY-SEP	690	935	1100	62	1270	1510	1770
	MAY-JUL	650	880	1040	62	1200	1430	1670
SPOKANE at Long Lake (2)	MAY-JUL	810	1080	1260	66	1440	1710	1910
	MAY-SEP	940	1220	1410	66	1600	1880	2130
CHAMOKANE CREEK near Long Lake	MAY-AUG	3.5	4.6	5.4	53	6.9	9.0	10.2
	JUL-AUG	2.09	2.28	2.40	69	2.60	2.80	3.50

## SPOKANE RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***		
		This Year	Last Year	Avg
COEUR D'ALENE	238.5	156.5	159.9	249.7

## SPOKANE RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004

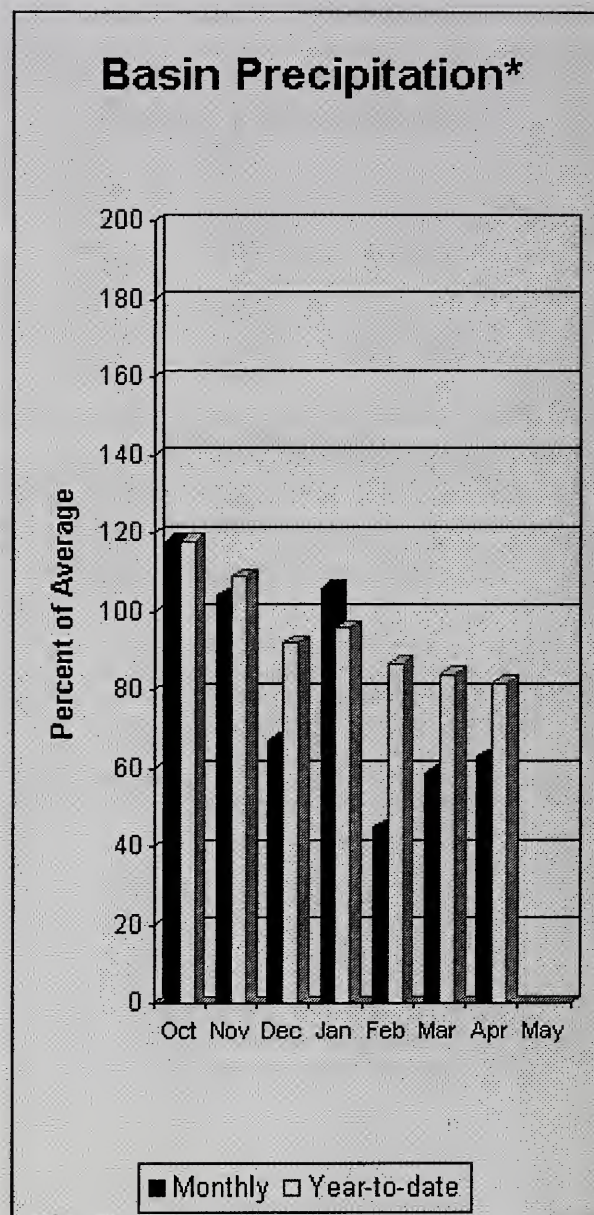
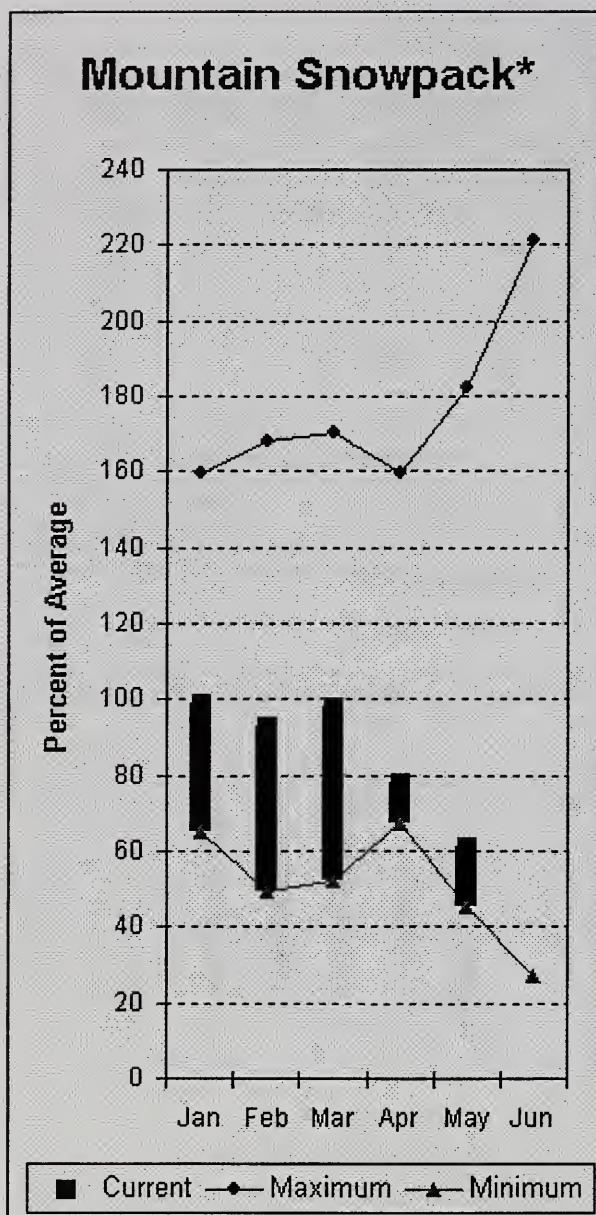
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		Last Yr	Average
SPOKANE RIVER	11	113	65
NEWMAN LAKE	1	81	38

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

## Colville - Pend Oreille River Basins



\*Based on selected stations

The May – September average forecast for the Kettle River streamflow is 70%, Colville at Kettle Falls is 46%, and Priest River near the Town of Priest River is 69%. April streamflow was 112% of average on the Pend Oreille River, 130% on the Columbia at the International Boundary and 126% on the Kettle River. May 1 snow cover was 61% of average in the Pend Oreille Basin River Basin. Bunchgrass Meadows SNOTEL site had 16.4 inches of snow water on the snow pillow. Normally Bunchgrass would have 28.6 inches on May 1. Precipitation during April was 63% of average, bringing the year-to-date precipitation to 82% of average. Average temperatures were 4 degree below normal for the past 28 days and 1 degree above normal for the water year.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



# Colville - Pend Oreille River Basins

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
PEND OREILLE Lake Inflow (2)	MAY-JUL	5140	6040	6650	63	7260	8160	10600
	MAY-SEP	5800	6800	7480	63	8160	9160	11800
PRIEST near Priest River (1,2)	MAY-JUL	315	390	425	69	460	535	615
	MAY-SEP	325	420	460	69	500	595	670
PEND OREILLE bl Box Canyon (2)	MAY-JUL	4980	6100	6860	64	7620	8740	10700
	MAY-SEP	5780	6930	7710	65	8490	9640	11900
COLVILLE at Kettle Falls	MAY-SEP	16.0	32	42	46	52	68	92
	MAY-JUL	14.0	27	36	46	45	58	79
KETTLE near Laurier	MAY-SEP	880	1040	1150	70	1260	1420	1640
	MAY-JUL	840	975	1070	70	1160	1300	1540
COLUMBIA at Birchbank (1,2)	MAY-JUL	23532	25779	26800	85	27820	30070	31600
	MAY-SEP	30236	33099	34400	86	35700	38560	40200
COLUMBIA at Grand Coulee Dm (1,2)	MAY-SEP	39523	43702	45600	80	47500	51680	56700
	MAY-JUL	32213	35642	37200	80	38760	42190	46600

### COLVILLE - PEND OREILLE RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

### COLVILLE - PEND OREILLE RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004

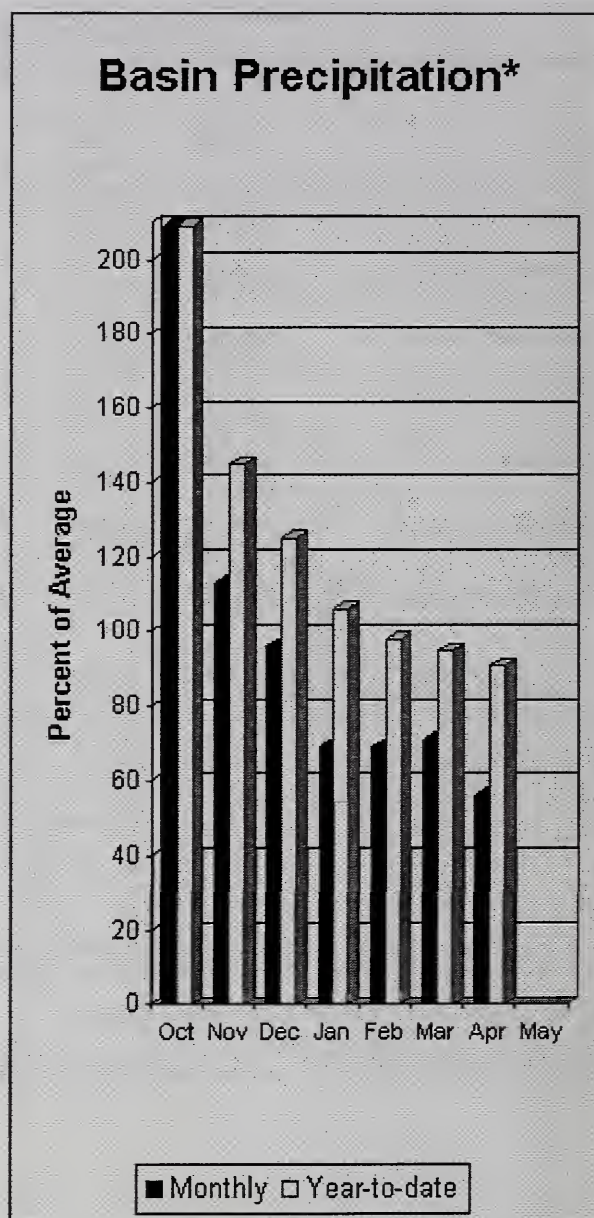
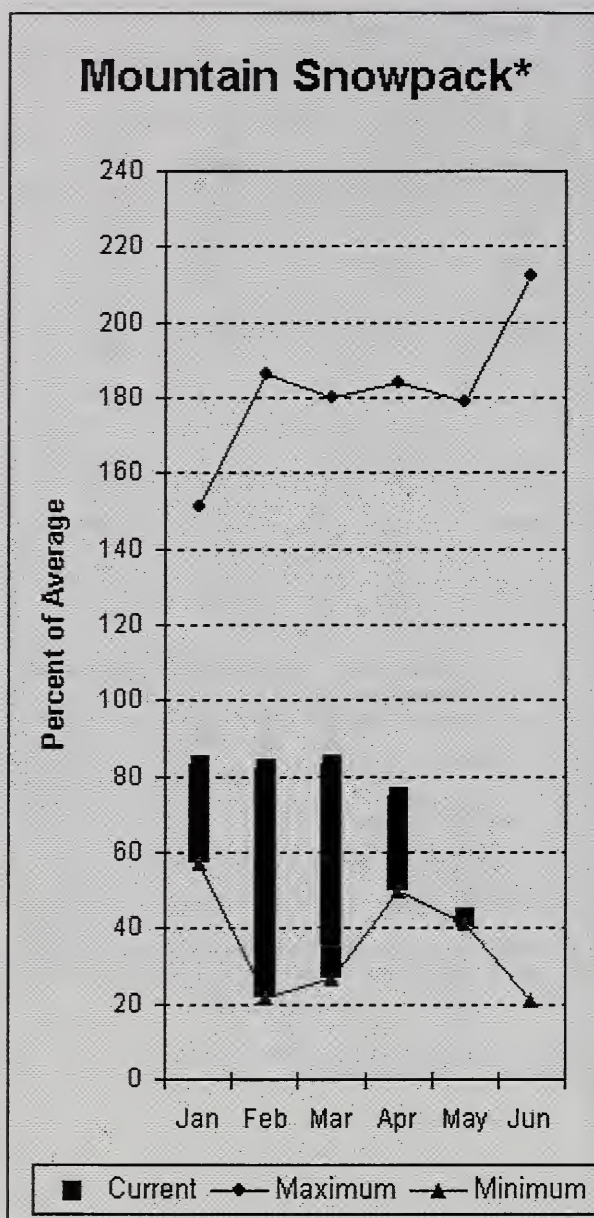
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
ROOSEVELT		NO REPORT			COLVILLE RIVER	0	0	0
BANKS		NO REPORT			PEND OREILLE RIVER	10	65	56
					KETTLE RIVER	6	65	55

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

## Okanogan - Methow River Basins



\*Based on selected stations

Summer runoff average forecast for the Okanogan River is 62%, Similkameen River is 57%, Methow River is 59% and Salmon Creek is 37%. May 1 snow cover on the Okanogan was 56% of average, Omak Creek was 28% and the Methow was 55%. April precipitation in the Okanogan-Methow was 56% of average, with precipitation for the water year at 91% of average. April streamflow for the Methow River was 162% of average, 131% for the Okanogan River and 194% for the Similkameen. Salmon Meadows SNOTEL had lost all snow by May 1. Average for this site is 3.9 inches on May 1. Combined storage in the Conconully Reservoirs was 12,800-acre feet, which is 54% of capacity and 67% of the May 1 average. Temperatures were 4 degrees above average for the past 28 days and 1 degree above normal for the water year.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



# Okanogan - Methow River Basins

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		===== Chance Of Exceeding * =====						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
SIMILKAMEEN near Nighthawk (1)	MAY-JUL	420	615	700	57	785	980	1220
	MAY-SEP	470	665	755	57	840	1040	1320
OKANOGAN near Tonasket (1)	MAY-JUL	370	705	860	61	1010	1350	1400
	MAY-SEP	450	815	980	62	1150	1510	1590
SALMON CREEK near Conconully	MAY-JUL	5.2	5.9	6.3	36	6.7	7.4	17.4
	MAY-SEP	5.5	6.2	6.7	37	7.2	7.9	18.3
BEAVER CREEK below SF near Twisp	MAY-SEP	3.2	4.3	5.0	45	6.6	9.0	11.2
	MAY-JUL	2.7	3.8	4.5	45	6.1	8.4	10.1
METHOW RIVER near Pateros	MAY-SEP	415	475	520	59	565	625	880
	MAY-JUL	385	440	480	59	520	575	810

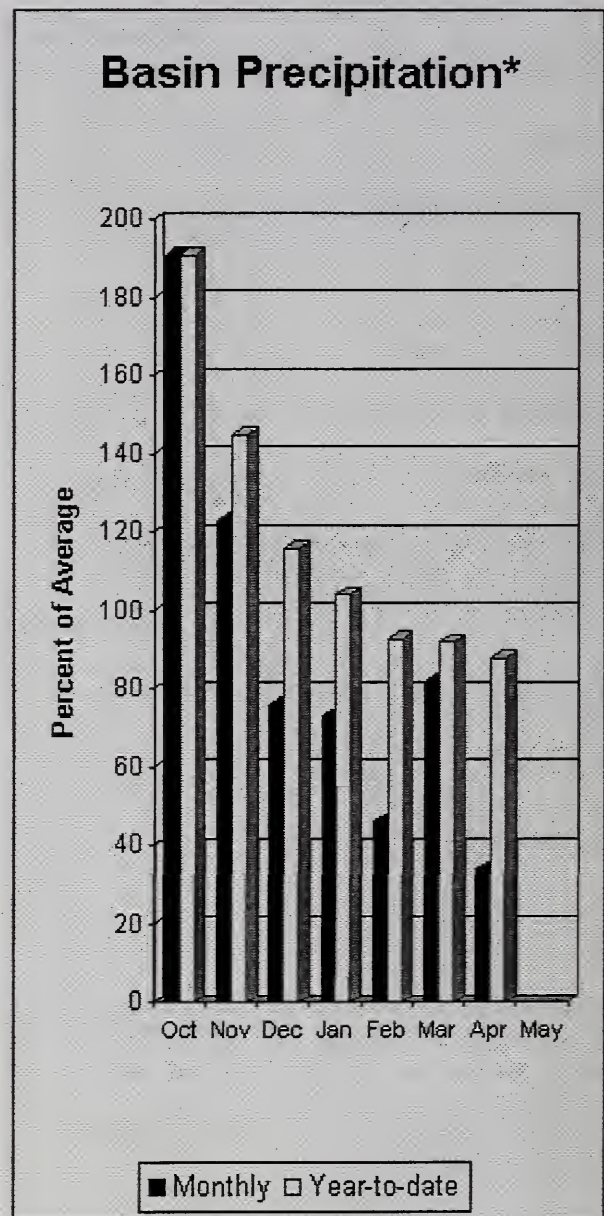
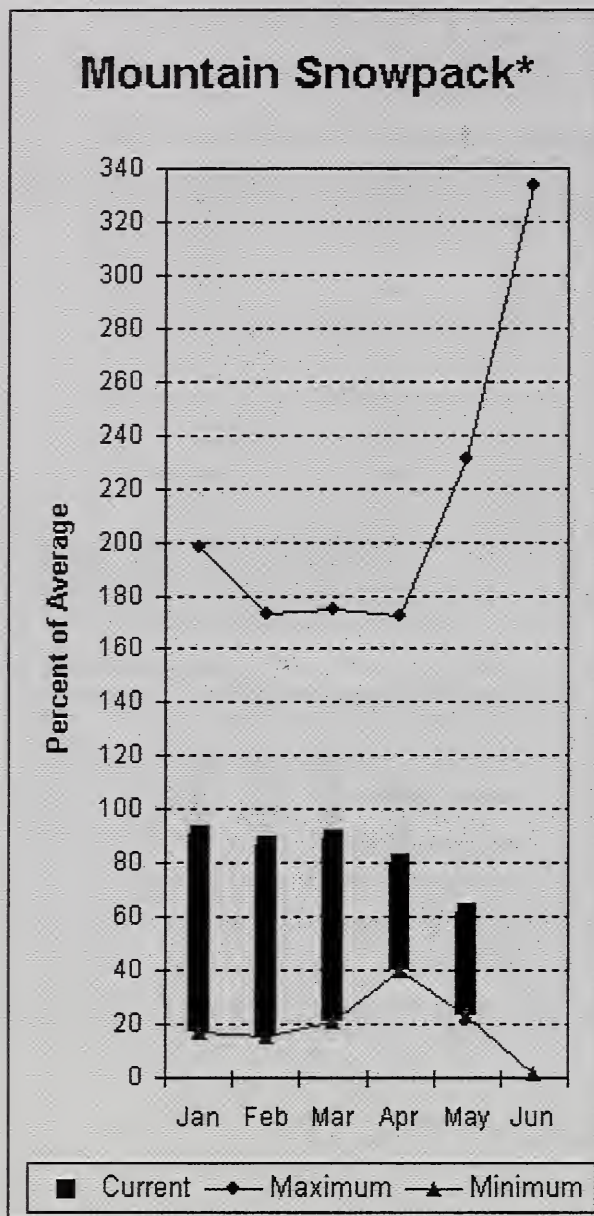
OKANOGAN - METHOW RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					OKANOGAN - METHOW RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
SALMON LAKE	10.5	5.4	3.6	8.9	OKANOGAN RIVER	19	76	55
CONCONULLY RESERVOIR	13.0	7.4	5.8	10.1	OMAK CREEK	1	25	28
					SANPOIL RIVER	0	0	0
					SIMILKAMEEN RIVER	4	60	32
					TOATS COULEE CREEK	0	0	0
					CONCONULLY LAKE	1	0	0
					METHOW RIVER	3	73	55

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

## Wenatchee - Chelan River Basins



\*Based on selected stations

Precipitation during April was 34% of average in the basin and 88% for the year-to-date. Runoff for Entiat River is forecast to be 49% of average for the summer. The May-September average forecast for Chelan River is 61%, Wenatchee River at Plain is 64%, Stehekin is 61%, Icicle Creek is 64% and Stemilt Creek 80%. April average streamflows on the Chelan River were 136% and on the Wenatchee River 133%. May 1 snowpack in the Wenatchee River Basin was 46% of average; the Chelan, 53%; the Entiat, 0%; Stemilt Creek, 86% and Colockum Creek, 0%. Reservoir storage in Lake Chelan was 341,800-acre feet, 131% of May 1 average and 51% of capacity. Lyman Lake SNOTEL had the most snow water with 33.9 inches of water. This site would normally have 67.2 inches on May 1. Temperatures were 3-4 degrees above normal for the past 28 days and near normal for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.



# Wenatchee - Chelan River Basins

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
CHELAN RIVER near Chelan	MAY-SEP	535	600	645	61	690	755	1050
	MAY-JUL	450	515	555	61	595	660	910
STEHEKIN near STEHEKIN	MAY-SEP	375	425	455	61	485	535	745
	MAY-JUL	305	350	380	61	410	455	620
ENTIAT RIVER nr Ardenvoir	MAY-SEP	87	98	105	49	112	123	215
	MAY-JUL	79	89	96	49	103	113	195
WENATCHEE at Plain	MAY-SEP	535	610	660	64	710	785	1035
	MAY-JUL	490	545	585	64	625	680	915
WENATCHEE R. at Peshastin	MAY-SEP	402	693	890	63	1087	1380	1410
	MAY-JUL	355	614	790	63	966	1225	1250
STEMILT CK nr Wenatchee (miner's in)	MAY-SEP	75	96	110	80	124	145	138
ICICLE CREEK near Leavenworth	MAY-SEP	180	190	195	64	200	210	305
	MAY-JUL	155	170	180	64	190	205	280
COLUMBIA R. bl Rock Island Dam (2)	MAY-SEP	43379	46964	49400	80	51840	55420	61600
	MAY-JUL	34721	38221	40600	80	42980	46480	51100

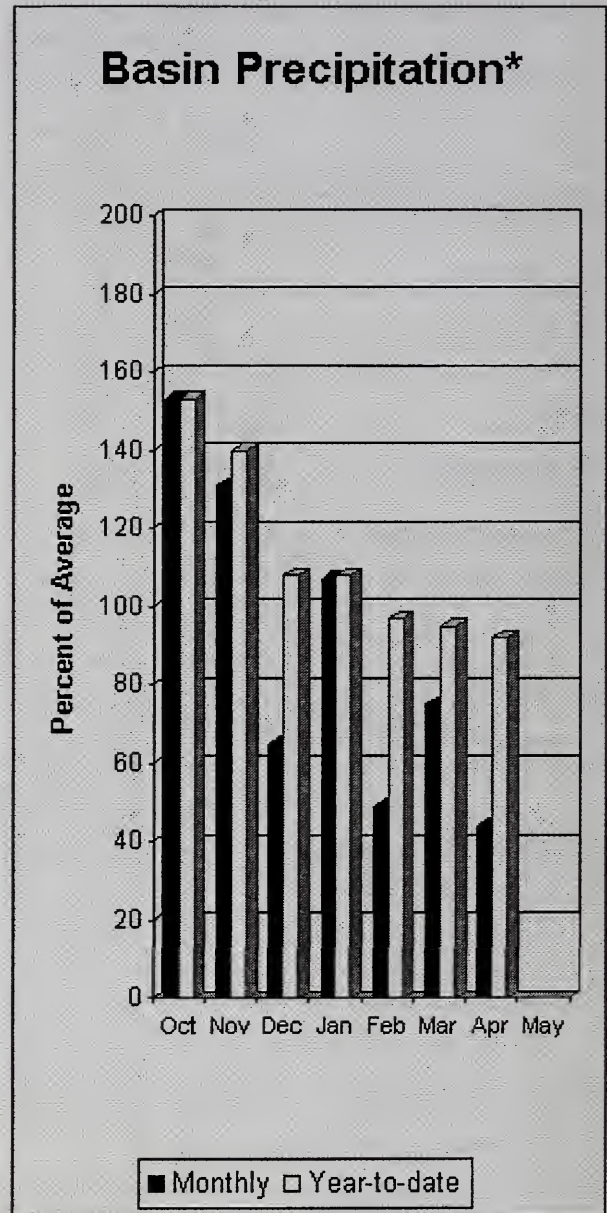
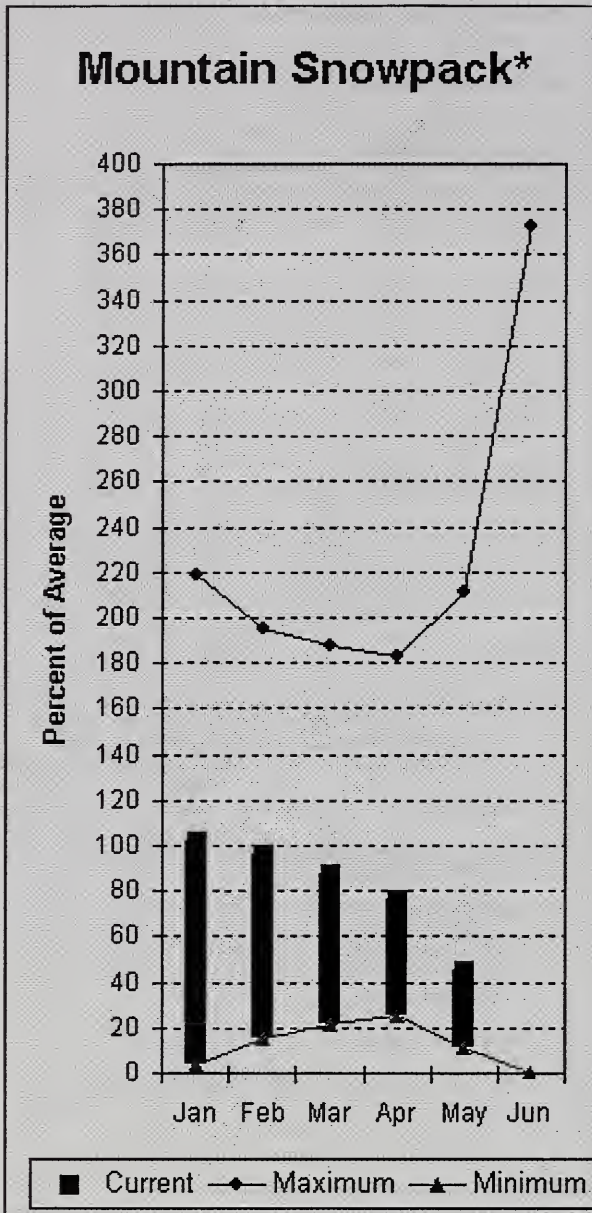
WENATCHEE - CHELAN RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					WENATCHEE - CHELAN RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
CHELAN LAKE	676.1	341.8	295.4	265.6	CHELAN LAKE BASIN	4	64	53
					ENTIAT RIVER	1	0	0
					WENATCHEE RIVER	11	64	46
					STEMILT CREEK	1	132	86
					COLOCKUM CREEK	1	0	0

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

# Upper Yakima River Basin



\*Based on selected stations

May 1 reservoir storage for the Upper Yakima reservoirs was 566,600-acre feet, 91% of average. Forecasts for the Yakima River at Cle Elum are 62% of average and the Teanaway River near Cle Elum is at 42%. Lake inflows are all forecasted to be in the 58% - 65% range this summer. April streamflows within the basin were Yakima near Cle Elum at 114% and Cle Elum River near Roslyn at 126%. May 1 snowpack was 45% based upon 9 snow courses and SNOTEL readings within the Upper Yakima Basin. Precipitation was 44% of average for April and 92% year-to-date. Temperatures were 3-4 degrees above normal for the past 28 days and near average for the water year. Volume forecasts for the Yakima Basin are for natural flow. As such, they may differ from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's forecast for the total water supply available, which includes irrigation return flow.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



# Upper Yakima River Basin

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
KEECHELUS LAKE INFLOW	MAY-JUL	37	47	54	59	61	71	92
	MAY-SEP	39	52	60	58	68	81	103
KACHESS LAKE INFLOW	MAY-JUL	36	43	48	57	53	60	84
	MAY-SEP	39	47	53	58	59	67	92
CLE ELUM LAKE INFLOW	MAY-JUL	180	195	210	64	225	240	330
	MAY-SEP	200	225	240	65	255	280	370
YAKIMA at Cle Elum	MAY-JUL	320	360	390	61	420	460	635
	MAY-SEP	355	405	440	62	475	525	715
TEANAWAY near Cle Elum	MAY-JUL	23	32	38	42	44	53	91
	MAY-SEP	25	34	40	42	46	55	95

### UPPER YAKIMA RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

### UPPER YAKIMA RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004

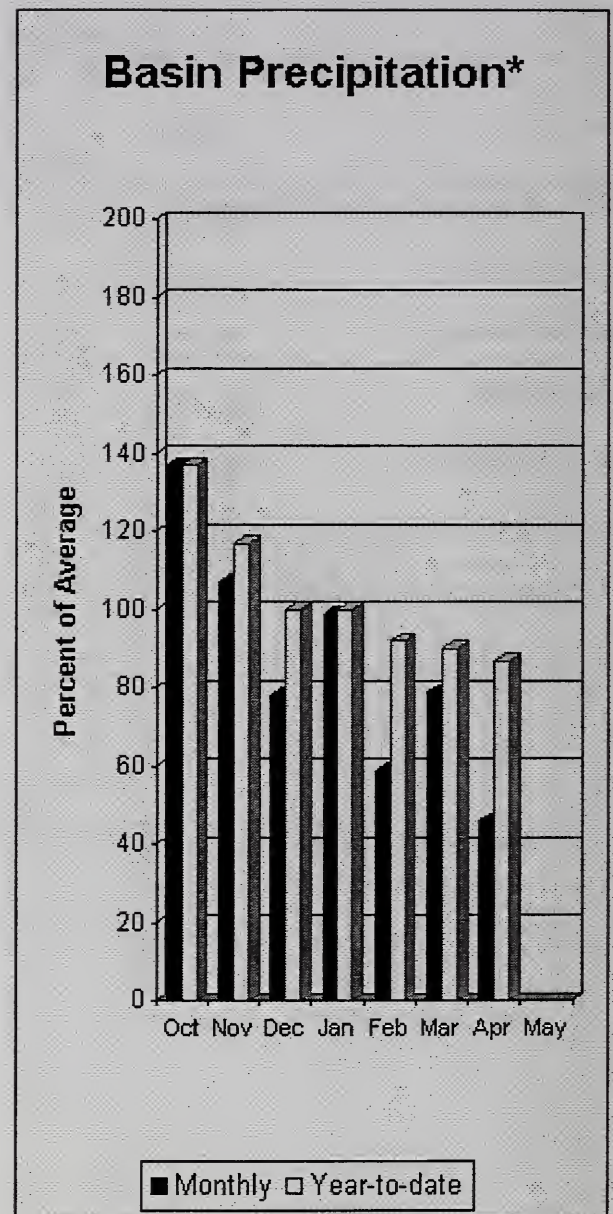
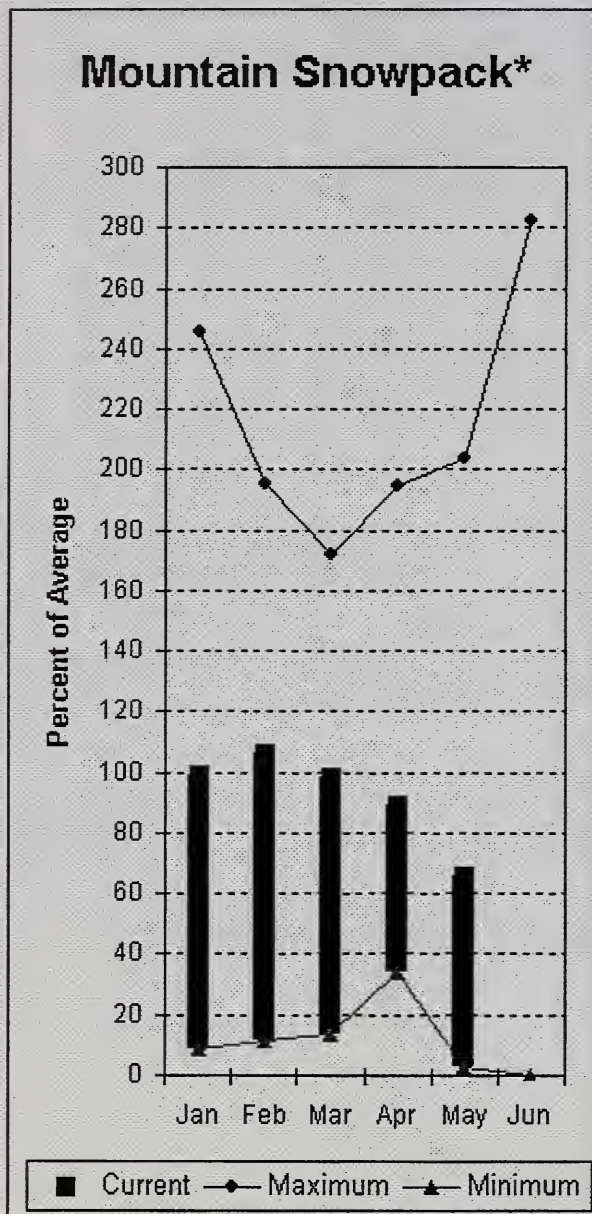
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
KEECHELUS	157.8	114.1	92.2	125.6	UPPER YAKIMA RIVER	9	72	45
KACHESS	239.0	154.5	200.5	188.3				
CLE ELUM	436.9	298.0	324.2	307.0				

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

## Lower Yakima River Basin



\*Based on selected stations

April average streamflows within the basin were: Yakima River near Parker, 125%; Naches River near Naches, 121%; and Yakima River at Kiona, 70%. May 1 reservoir storage for Bumping and Rimrock reservoirs was 181,000-acre feet, 107% of average. Forecast averages for Yakima River near Parker are 63%; American River near Nile, 71%; Ahtanum Creek, 66%; and Klickitat River near Glenwood, 72%. May 1 snowpack was 66% based upon 6 snow courses and SNOTEL readings within the Lower Yakima Basin. Precipitation was 46% of average for April and 87% year-to-date for water. Temperatures were 3-4 degrees above normal for the past 28 days and 1 degree above average for the water year. Volume forecasts for Yakima Basin are for natural flow. As such, they may differ from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's forecast for the total water supply available, which includes irrigation return flow.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.



## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

		<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
BUMPING LAKE INFLOW	MAY-SEP	62	73	80	71	87	98	113
	MAY-JUL	59	67	73	71	79	87	103
AMERICAN RIVER near Nile	MAY-SEP	56	65	71	71	77	86	100
	MAY-JUL	50	58	64	71	70	78	90
RIMROCK LAKE INFLOW	MAY-SEP	120	135	146	71	157	172	205
	MAY-JUL	101	112	120	71	128	139	168
NACHES near Naches	MAY-SEP	375	430	465	68	500	555	680
	MAY-JUL	335	380	410	68	440	485	600
AHTANUM CREEK nr Tampico (2)	MAY-SEP	14.0	20	23	66	26	32	35
	MAY-JUL	12.0	17.0	20	65	23	28	31
YAKIMA near Parker	MAY-SEP	765	865	935	63	1005	1105	1480
	MAY-JUL	660	750	815	63	875	965	1290
KLICKITAT near Glenwood	MAY-JUN	58	66	72	71	78	86	102
	MAY-SEP	78	89	97	72	105	116	135

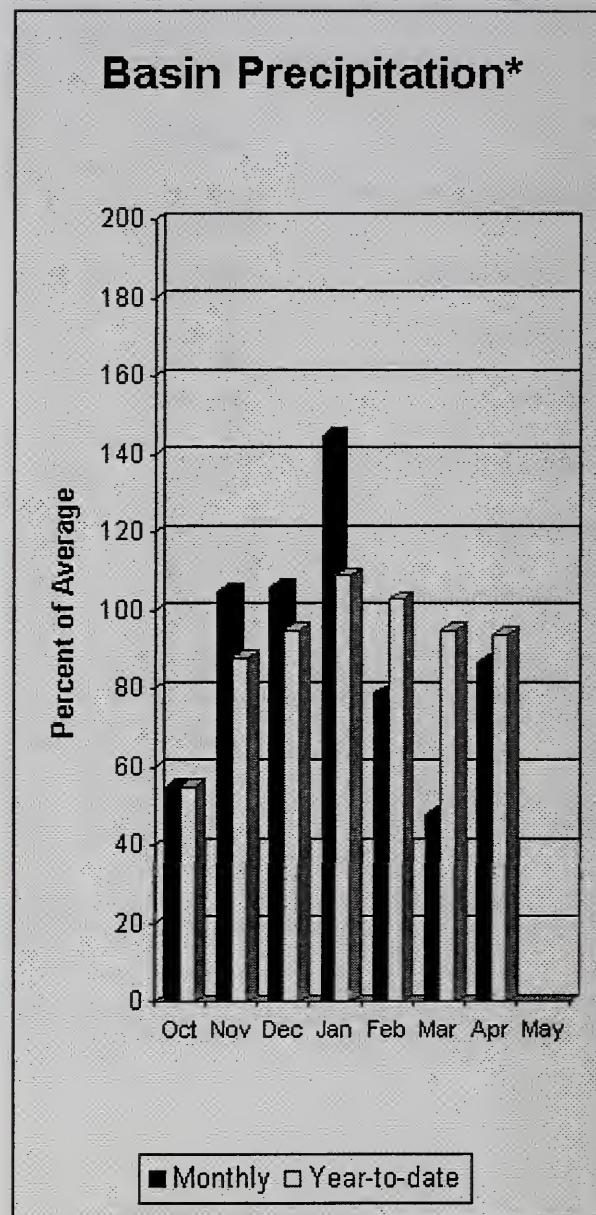
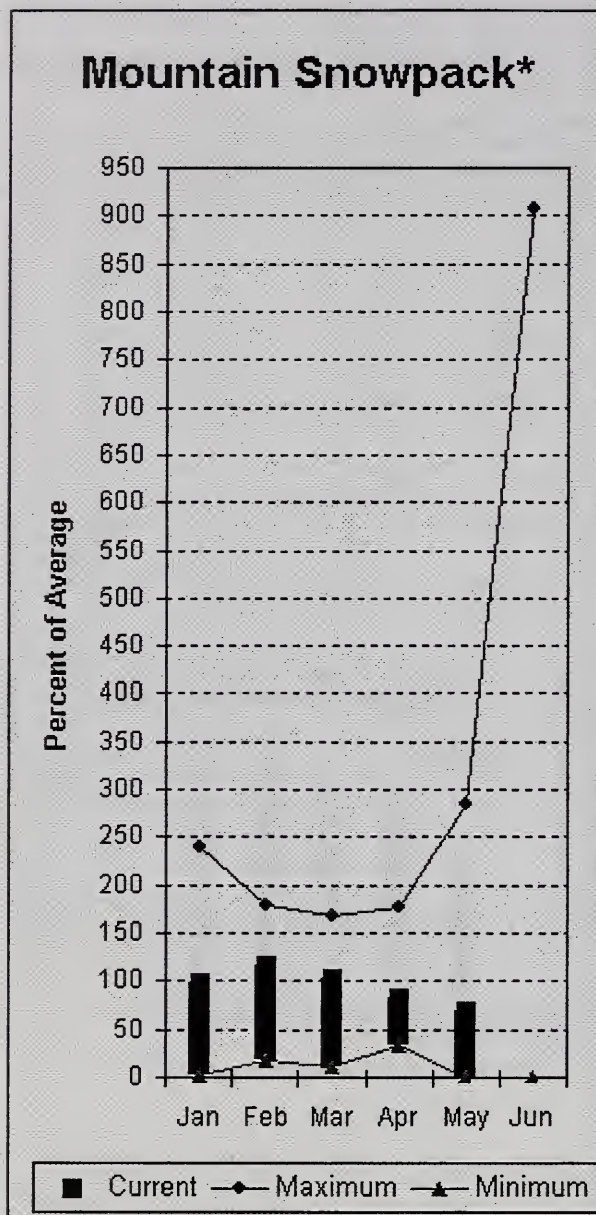
LOWER YAKIMA RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					LOWER YAKIMA RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004		
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg	Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr Average
BUMPING LAKE	33.7	31.6	30.2	19.6			
RIMROCK	198.0	149.4	191.3	149.4			

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

# Walla Walla River Basin



\*Based on selected stations

April precipitation was 87% of average, maintaining the year-to-date precipitation at 94% of average. (Thunder storm activity may have influenced monthly precipitation totals at some stations) Snowpack in the basin was 69% of average. Streamflow forecasts are 63% of average for Mill Creek and 71% for the SF Walla Walla near Milton-Freewater. April streamflow was 149% of average for the Walla Walla River. Average temperatures were 5 degrees above normal for the past 28 days and 1-2 degrees above average for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.



## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
		90%		50% (Most Probable)		30%		30-Yr Avg.
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
MILL CREEK at Walla Walla	MAY-SEP	2.50	4.40	5.70	63	7.00	8.90	9.00
	MAY-JUL	2.40	4.30	5.60	63	6.90	8.80	8.90
SF WALLA WALLA near Milton-Freewater	MAY-JUL	20	24	27	71	30	34	38
	MAY-SEP	28	33	36	71	39	44	51

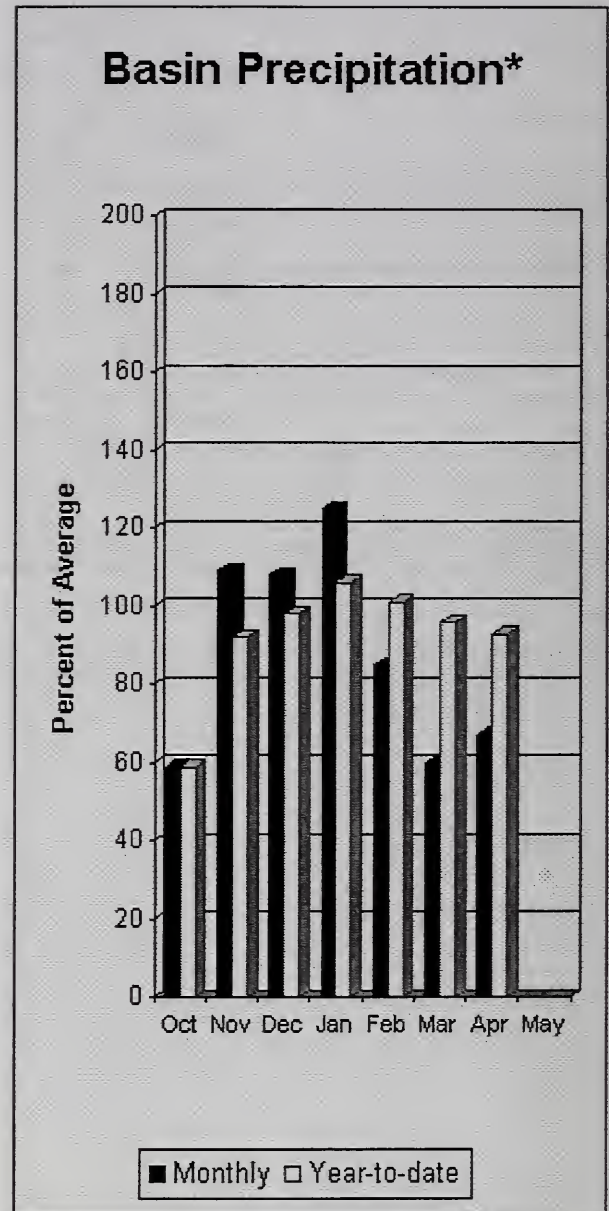
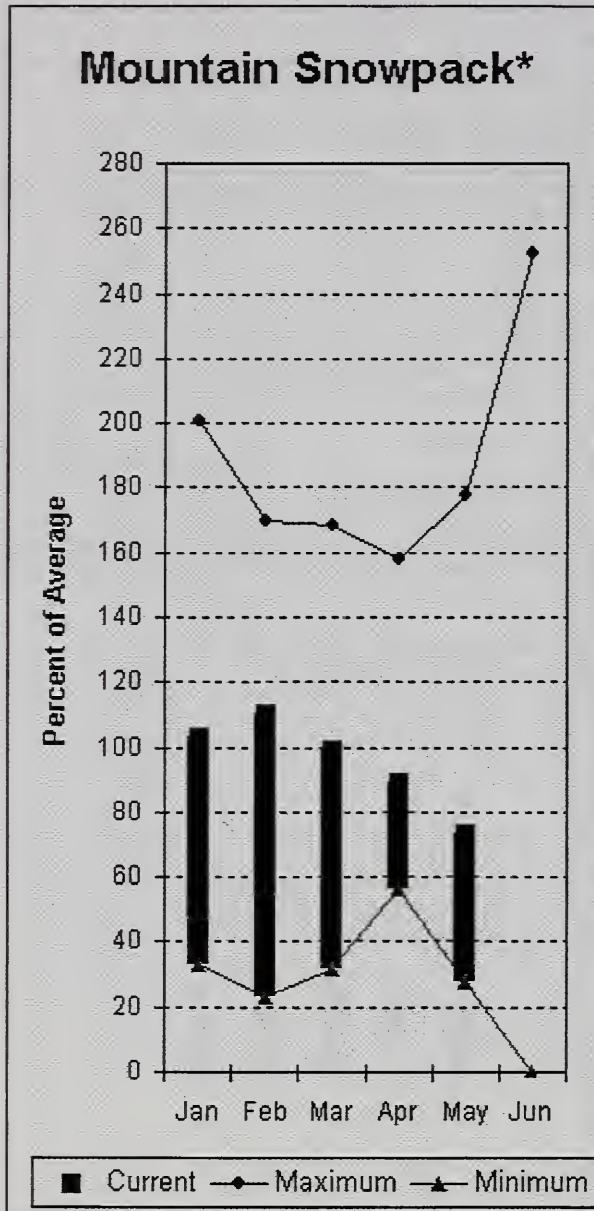
WALLA WALLA RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					WALLA WALLA RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					WALLA WALLA RIVER	2	87	69

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

## Lower Snake River Basin



\*Based on selected stations

The May - September forecast is for 67% for Clearwater River at Spalding. The Snake and Grande Ronde rivers can expect summer flows to be about 58% and 67% of normal respectively. April precipitation was 67% of average, bringing the year-to-date precipitation to 93% of average. May 1 snowpack readings averaged 73% of normal. April streamflow was 73% of average for Snake River below Lower Granite Dam and 87% for Grande Ronde River near Troy. Average temperatures were 5 degrees above normal for the past 28 days and 2 degrees above normal for the water year.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
GRANDE RONDE at Troy (1)	MAY-JUL	366	534	610	67	686	855	910
	MAY-SEP	403	590	675	67	760	945	1010
CLEARWATER at Spalding (1,2)	MAY-JUL	2780	3520	3860	67	4200	4940	5770
	MAY-SEP	3010	3810	4170	67	4530	5330	6190
SNAKE blw Lower Granite Dam (1,2)	MAY-JUL	6240	8502	9530	57	10560	12820	16700
	MAY-SEP	7395	10012	11200	58	12390	15000	19300

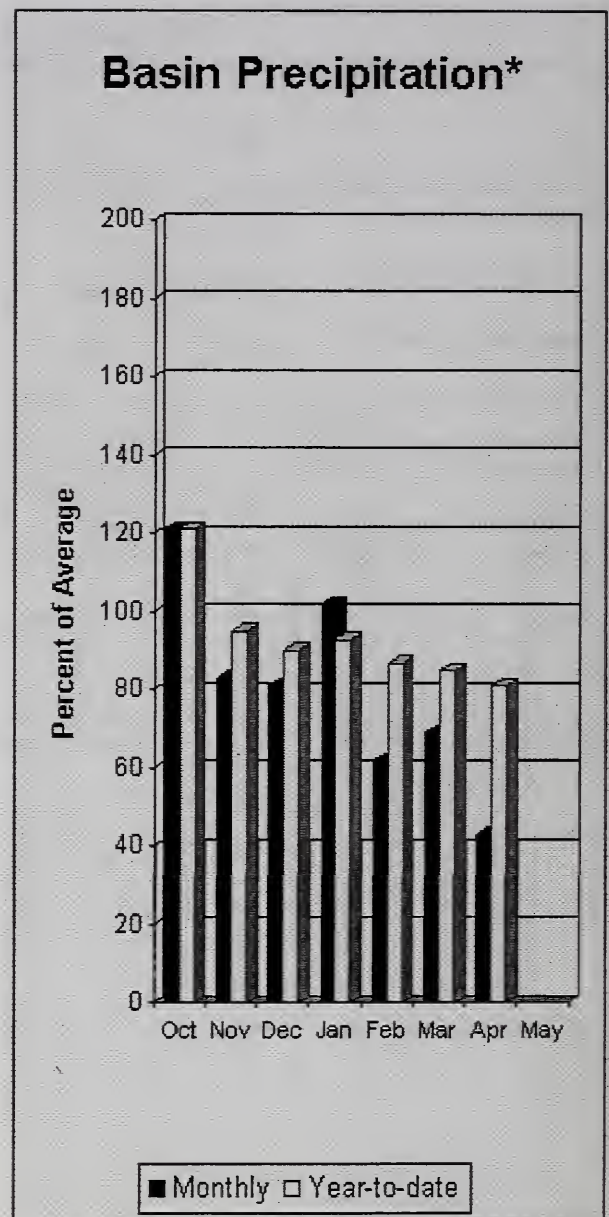
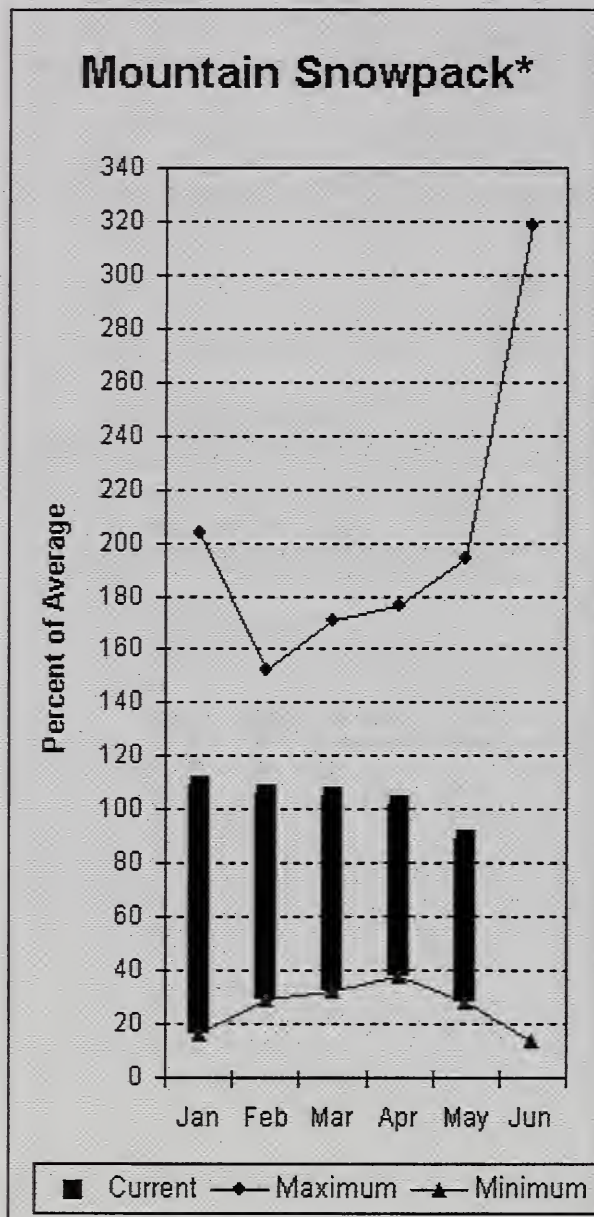
LOWER SNAKE RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					LOWER SNAKE RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					LOWER SNAKE, GRANDE RONDE	9	79	73

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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## Cowlitz - Lewis River Basins



\*Based on selected stations

Forecasts for May – September streamflows within the basin are Lewis River at Ariel, 85% and Cowlitz River at Castle Rock, 83% of average. The Columbia River at The Dalles is forecasted to have 70% of average flows this summer. April average streamflow for Cowlitz River was 79% and 72% for Lewis River. The Columbia River at The Dalles was at 97% of average. April precipitation was 43% of average and the water-year average was 81%. May 1 snow cover for Cowlitz River was 90%, and Lewis River was 87% of average. Average temperatures were 4-5 degrees above normal during the past 28 days and 2 degrees above normal throughout the water year.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



# Cowlitz - Lewis River Basins

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

		<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
LEWIS at Ariel (2)	MAY-JUL	436	510	560	84	610	684	667
	MAY-SEP	563	639	690	85	741	817	812
COWLITZ R. bl Mayfield Dam (2)	MAY-SEP	440	904	1220	83	1536	2000	1478
	MAY-JUL	374	764	1030	83	1296	1686	1247
COWLITZ R. at Castle Rock (2)	MAY-SEP	643	1237	1640	83	2043	2637	1972
	MAY-JUL	540	1034	1370	84	1706	2200	1629
KLICKITAT near Glenwood	MAY-JUN	58	66	72	71	78	86	102
	MAY-SEP	78	89	97	72	105	116	135
COLUMBIA R. at The Dalles (2)	MAY-SEP	47244	54065	58700	70	63330	70160	84500
	MAY-JUL	38744	44434	48300	69	52170	57860	70500

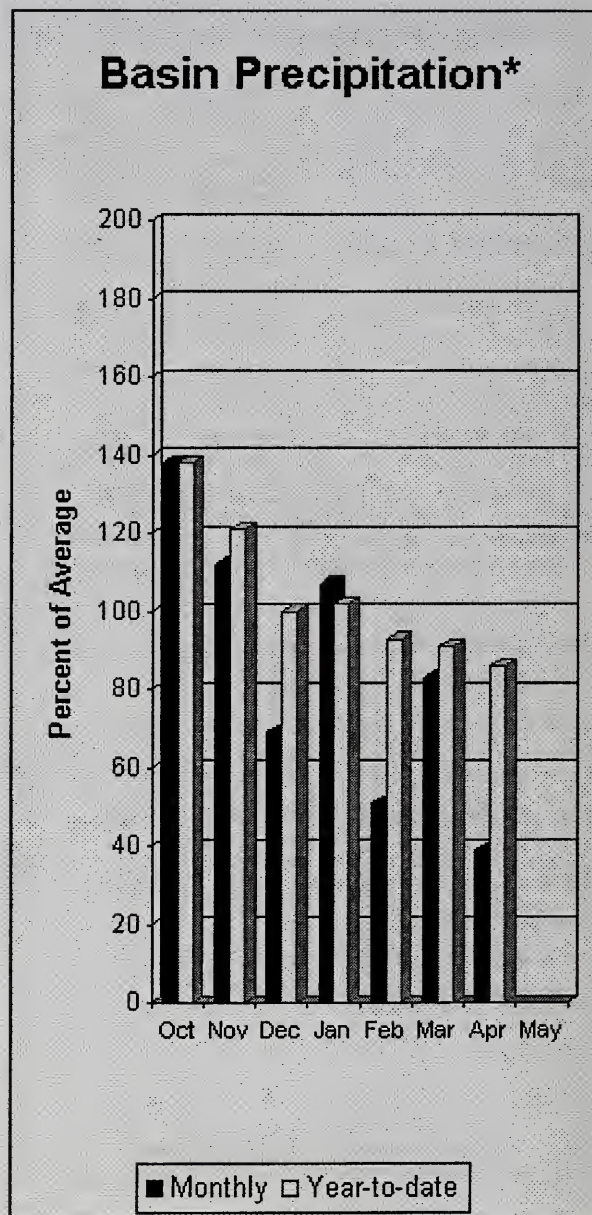
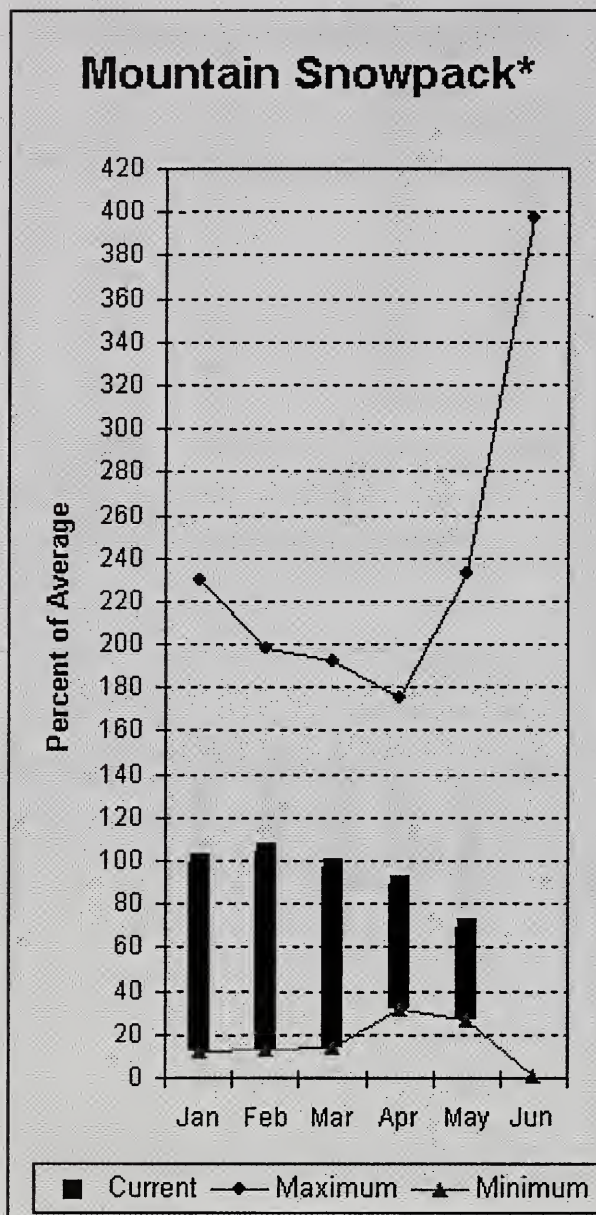
COWLITZ - LEWIS RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					COWLITZ - LEWIS RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					LEWIS RIVER	4	120	87
					COWLITZ RIVER	5	111	90

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

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 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

## White - Green River Basins



\*Based on selected stations

Summer runoff is forecast to be 84% of normal for the Green River below Howard Hanson Dam and 86% for the White River near Buckley. May 1 snowpack was 74% of average in both the White River and the Puyallup River basins and 63% in the Green River Basin. Water content on May 1 at Corral Pass SNOTEL, at an elevation of 6,000 feet, was 34.5 inches. This site has a May 1 average of 35.4 inches. April precipitation was 39% of average, bringing the water year-to-date to 86% of average for the basins. Average temperatures in the area were 4 degrees above normal for the past 28 days and near normal for the water-year.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



# White - Green - Puyallup River Basins

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
WHITE near Buckley (1,2)	MAY-JUL	231	285	310	89	335	389	348
	MAY-SEP	294	353	380	86	407	466	442
GREEN below Howard Hanson (1,2)	MAY-JUL	95	119	130	82	141	165	159
	MAY-SEP	112	142	155	84	168	198	185

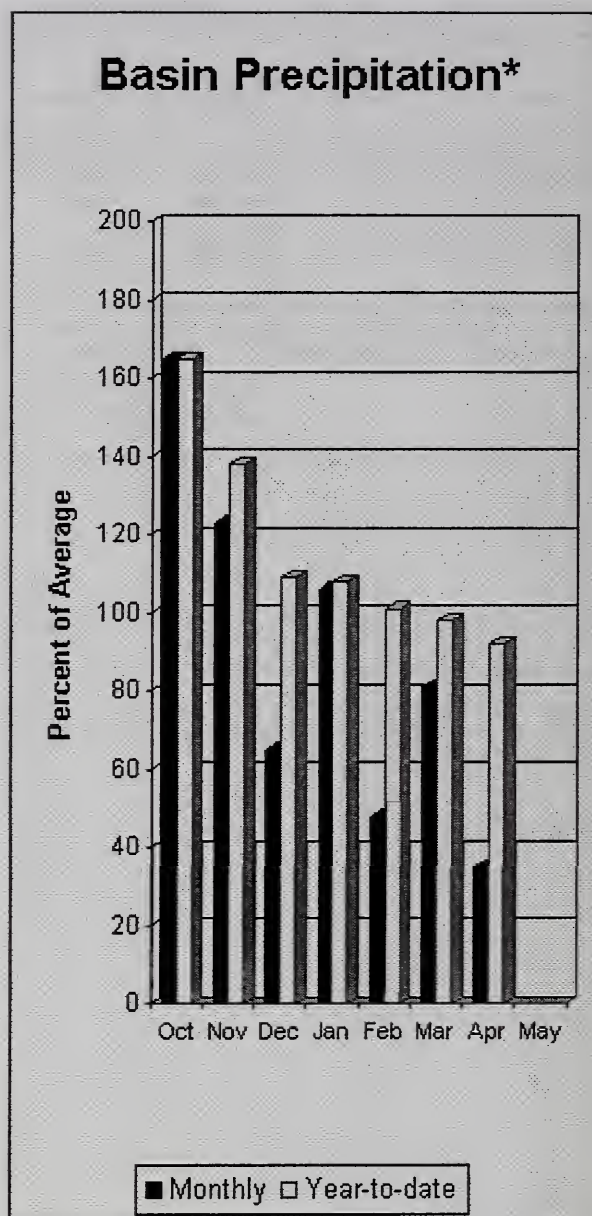
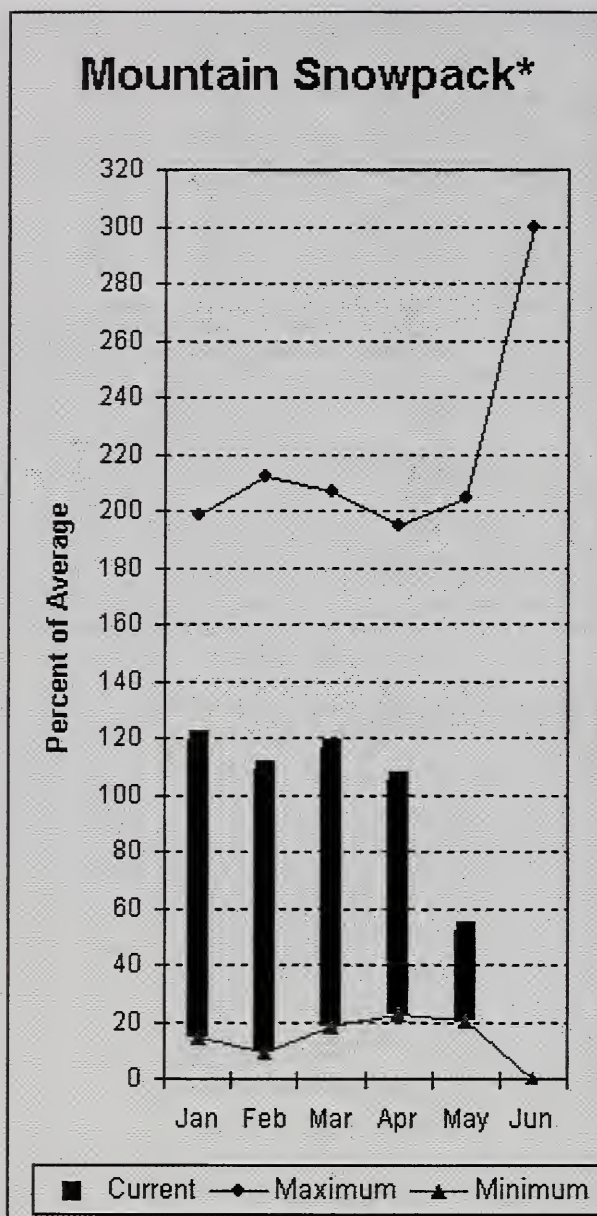
WHITE - GREEN - PUYALLUP RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					WHITE - GREEN - PUYALLUP RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					WHITE RIVER	2	76	74
					GREEN RIVER	6	107	62
					PUYALLUP RIVER	2	76	74

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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## Central Puget Sound River Basins



\*Based on selected stations

Forecast for spring and summer flows are: 73% for Cedar River near Cedar Falls; 71% for Rex River; 80% for South Fork of the Tolt River; and 67% for Cedar River at Cedar Falls. Basin-wide precipitation for April was 35% of average, bringing water-year-to-date to 92% of average. May 1 average snow cover in Cedar River Basin was 30%, Tolt River Basin was 65%, Snoqualmie River Basin was 54%, and Skykomish River Basin was 58%. Alpine Meadows SNOTEL site, at 3500 feet, had 38.9 inches of water content. Average May 1 water content is 45.8 inches at Alpine Meadows. Temperatures were 5 degrees above average for the past 28 days and near normal for the water-year.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



# Central Puget Sound River Basins

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		Chance Of Exceeding *						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
CEDAR near Cedar Falls	MAY-JUL	24	31	36	69	41	48	52
	MAY-SEP	30	38	43	73	48	56	59
REX near Cedar Falls	MAY-JUL	5.8	9.1	11.3	65	13.5	16.8	17.4
	MAY-SEP	8.0	11.7	14.2	71	16.7	20	20
CEDAR RIVER at Cedar Falls	MAY-JUL	0.9	19.4	32	68	45	63	47
	MAY-SEP	0.5	16.4	31	67	46	67	46
SOUTH FORK TOLT near Index	MAY-JUL	6.2	7.7	8.7	79	9.7	11.2	11.0
	MAY-SEP	7.3	9.2	10.5	80	11.8	13.7	13.2

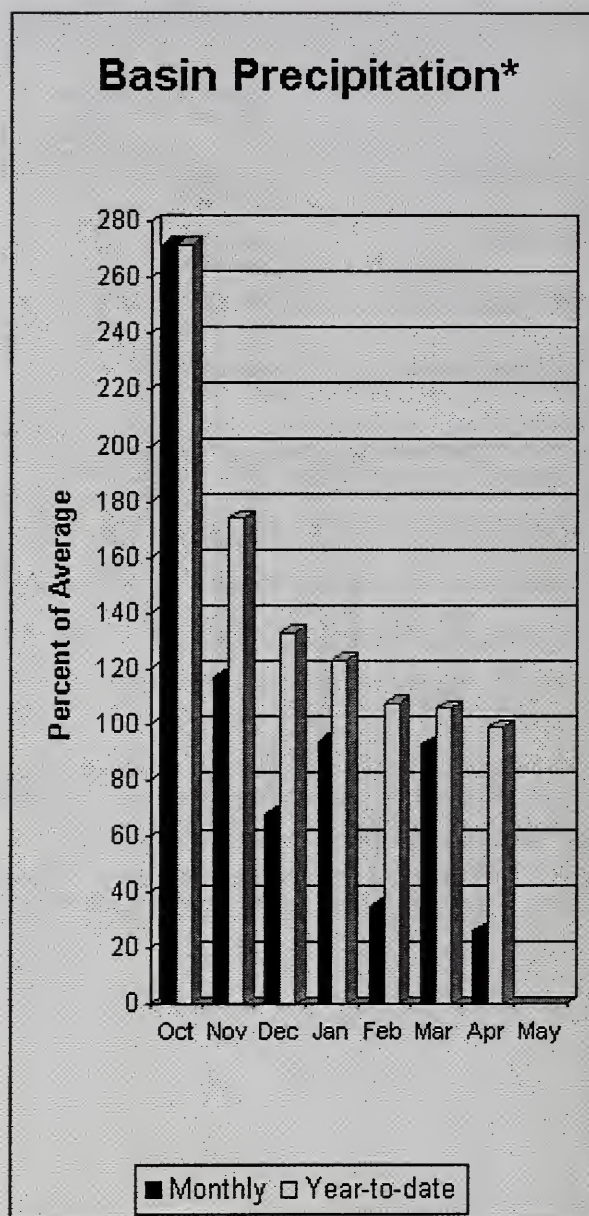
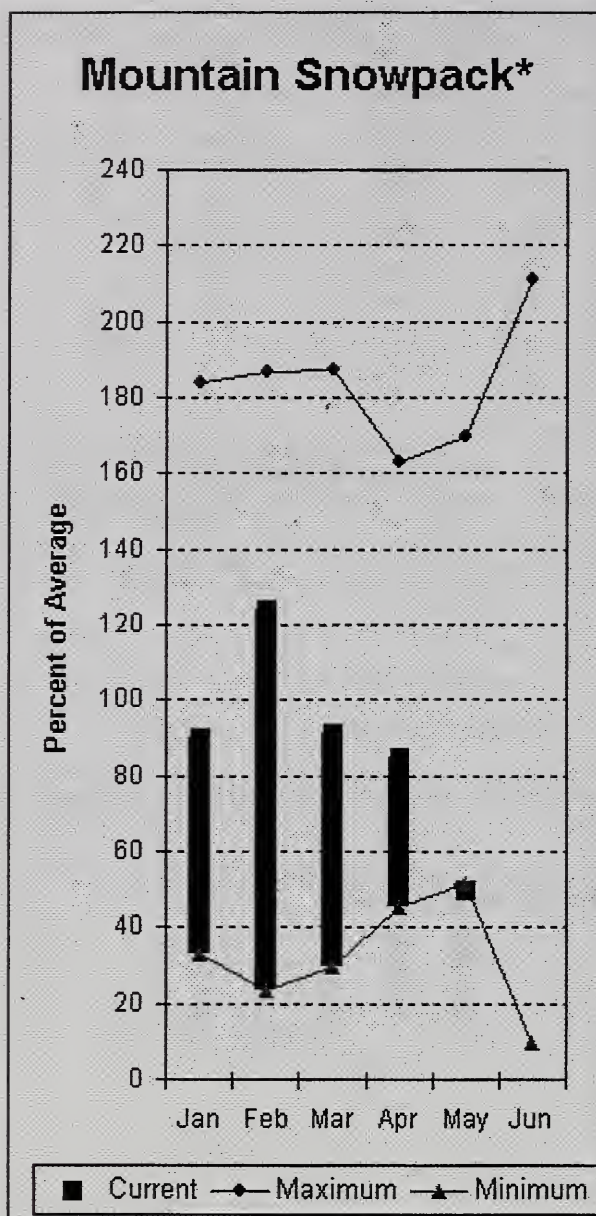
CENTRAL PUGET SOUND RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					CENTRAL PUGET SOUND RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					CEDAR RIVER	4	53	30
					TOLT RIVER	2	127	65
					SNOQUALMIE RIVER	5	85	54
					SKYKOMISH RIVER	3	87	58

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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## North Puget Sound River Basins



\*Based on selected stations

Forecast for Skagit River streamflow at Newhalem is 77% of average for the spring and summer period. April streamflow in Skagit River was 98% of average. Other forecast points included Baker River at 76% and Thunder Creek at 84% of average. Basin-wide precipitation for April was 26% of average, bringing water-year-to-date to 99% of average. May 1 average snow cover in Skagit River Basin was 56%, Baker River Basin was at 50% and Nooksack River Basin was 45%. Rainy Pass SNOTEL, at 4,780 feet, had 23.6 inches of water content. Average May 1 water content is 43.2 inches at Rainy Pass. May 1 Skagit River reservoir storage was 122% of average and 65% of capacity. Average temperatures for the past 28 days were 6 degrees above normal for the basin and 1 degree above average for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.



# North Puget Sound River Basins

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

		<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>		
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
THUNDER CREEK near Newhalem	MAY-JUL	144	159	170	80	181	196	212
	MAY-SEP	234	250	260	84	270	286	310
SKAGIT at Newhalem (2)	MAY-JUL	1045	1131	1190	74	1249	1335	1611
	MAY-SEP	1353	1447	1510	77	1573	1667	1964
BAKER RIVER near Concrete	MAY-JUL	415	466	500	73	534	585	684
	MAY-SEP	563	638	690	76	742	817	906

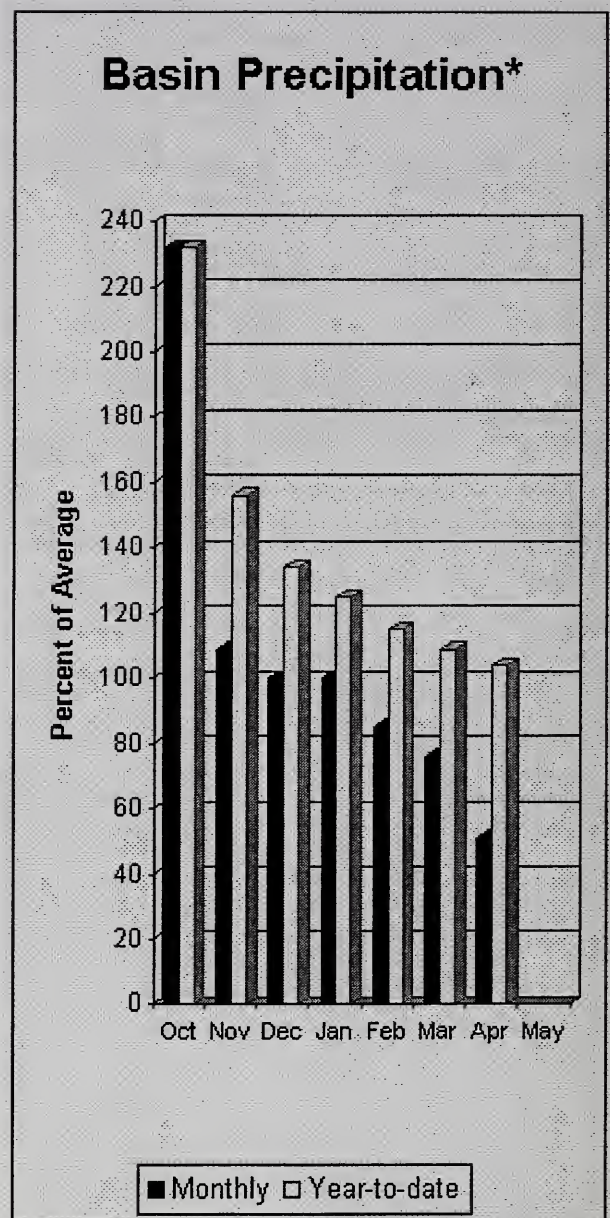
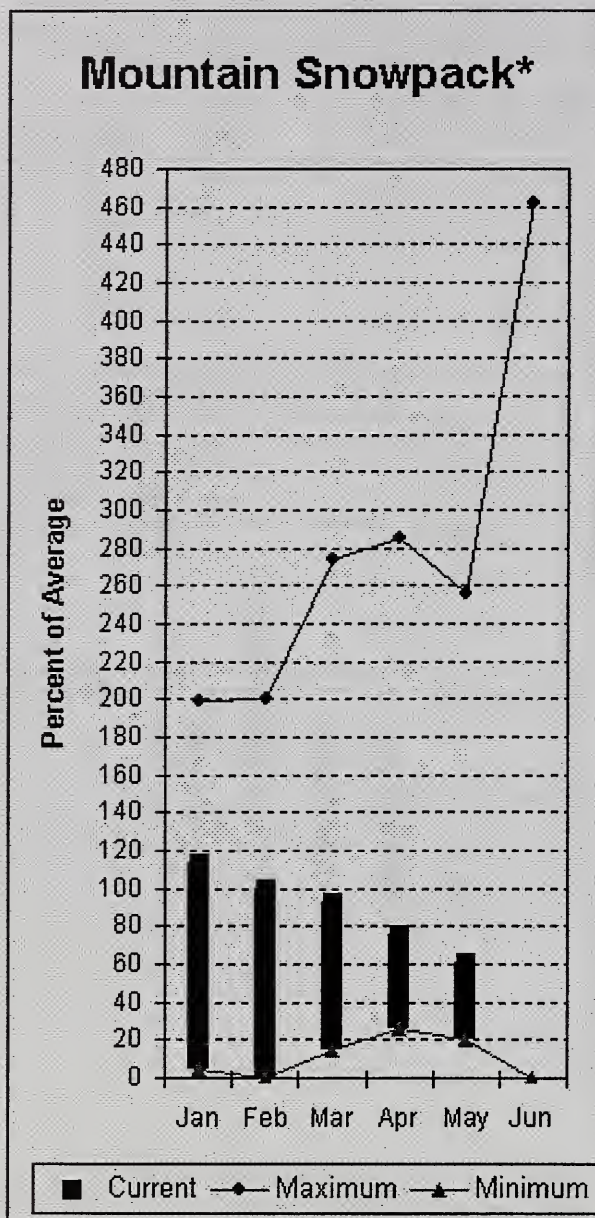
NORTH PUGET SOUND RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					NORTH PUGET SOUND RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
ROSS		NO REPORT			SKAGIT RIVER	13	72	55
DIABLO RESERVOIR		NO REPORT			BAKER RIVER	1	57	50
GORGE RESERVOIR		NO REPORT			NOOKSACK RIVER	1	97	45

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

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 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

## Olympic Peninsula River Basins



\*Based on selected stations

Forecasted average runoff for streamflow in the Dungeness River and Elwha River basins is 83% and 77% respectively. Big Quilcene and Wynoochee rivers should expect runoff in that same range this summer also. April precipitation was 51% of average. Precipitation has accumulated at 104% of average for the water year. April precipitation at Quillayute was 1.78 inches. The thirty-year average for April is 7.44 inches. Olympic Peninsula snowpack averaged 61% of normal on May 1. Temperatures were 4-5 degrees above average for the past 28 days and 2 degrees above average for the water year.

*For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.*



# Olympic Peninsula River Basins

## Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		Chance Of Exceeding *						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
DUNGENESS near Sequim	MAY-SEP	96	104	110	83	116	124	132
	MAY-JUL	76	82	86	82	90	96	105
ELWHA near Port Angeles	MAY-SEP	280	307	325	77	343	370	423
	MAY-JUL	224	246	260	77	274	296	338

### OLYMPIC PENINSULA RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

### OLYMPIC PENINSULA RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2004

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					OLYMPIC PENINSULA	4	73	61

\* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.





*Issued by*

**Bruce Knight**  
**Chief**  
**Natural Resources Conservation Service**  
**U.S. Department of Agriculture**

*Released by*

**R.L. "Gus" Hughbanks**  
**State Conservationist**  
**Natural Resources Conservation Service**  
**Spokane, Washington**

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## The Following Organizations Cooperate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Snow Survey Work\*:

<b>Canada</b>	Ministry of Sustainable Resources Snow Survey, River Forecast Centre, Victoria, British Columbia
<b>State</b>	Washington State Department of Ecology Washington State Department of Natural Resources
<b>Federal</b>	Department of the Army Corps of Engineers U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service U.S. Department of Commerce NOAA, National Weather Service U.S. Department of Interior Bonneville Power Administration Bureau of Reclamation Geological Survey National Park Service Bureau of Indian Affairs
<b>Local</b>	City of Tacoma City of Seattle Chelan County P.U.D. Pacific Power and Light Company Puget Sound Power and Light Company Washington Water Power Company Snohomish County P.U.D. Colville Confederated Tribes Spokane County Yakama Indian Nation Whatcom County Pierce County
<b>Private</b>	Okanogan Irrigation District Wenatchee Heights Irrigation District Newman Lake Homeowners Association Whitestone Reclamation District

\*Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.



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# Washington Water Supply Outlook Report

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Spokane, WA

